

Bridge Program Purpose and Performance Measures

The goal of the Bridge Program is to preserve the structural integrity of all bridges that Department of Transportation and Engineering (DOTE) maintains so that they are safe. DOTE established the following performance measures to track progress towards accomplishing this objective.

1. Bridge Program personnel will annually inspect all bridges on, over, or under public streets within the City of Cincinnati (excluding bridges inspected by ODOT) and submit an annual bridge condition report to City Council, in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code, Section 723.54.

During the 2007 bridge inspection cycle, DOTE bridge inspection personnel inspected all 228 bridges requiring inspection. The results of that inspection are in the report which is available in the Clerk of Council's Office.

2. Bridge Program personnel will develop, request funding, program, and manage bridge maintenance, repair, and replacement work so as to maintain a Weighted Average Bridge Rating of 6 or better for bridges maintained by the Department of Transportation and Engineering. A bridge General Appraisal rating of 6 represents a "Satisfactory" condition.

Based on the 2007 bridge inspection cycle, the Weighted Average Bridge rating is 7.16 for City (DOTE) Bridges and 5.98 for County Bridges. This lower rating for County Bridges is largely due to the transfer of larger, better maintained bridges carrying federal and state routes from Hamilton County to ODOT. Submission of the 2007 Annual Bridge Report highlights progress and plans focused on maintaining the safety of our bridges.

Bridge Conditions

The individual bridge ratings for all 63 City (DOTE) bridges and all 26 County bridges are shown in tabular fashion elsewhere on this site. Bridges that have been transferred to ODOT are indicated by "ODOT" in the current year rating columns. A summary of the bridge ratings for all 228 inspected bridges is also shown in tabular form elsewhere. The Weighted Average Bridge Rating for both City (DOTE) bridges and County bridges from 1987 to 2007 is shown in graphical form as well.

As indicated on the graph, the condition of both City (DOTE) bridges and County bridges has shown general improvement over the last nineteen years. The current weighted average bridge rating for City (DOTE) bridges is 7.16 This is the fifteenth consecutive year that the Weighted Average Bridge Rating for City (DOTE) bridges was greater than 6. The current Weighted Average Bridge Rating for County bridges within the city limits is 5.98. This year is the first time in fourteen years that the Weighted Average Bridge Rating for County Bridges has dropped below 6.

Change in Average Bridge Conditions Over the Past Year

The slight increase in the Weighted Average Bridge Rating for City (DOTE) Bridges that occurred this year (from 7.11 in 2006 to 7.16 in 2007) was the cumulative result of the following six changes:

- 1) The condition rating of the Baymiller Street Pedestrian Bridge over Central Parkway was lowered from a rating of 6 (Satisfactory condition) to a rating of 5 (Fair condition) due to general age-related deterioration.
- 2) The condition rating of the Central Parkway over Rapid Transit Tubes (Walnut to Draper) was lowered from a rating of 6 (Satisfactory condition) to a rating of 5 (Fair condition) due to general age-related deterioration.
- 3) The condition rating of the Burns Street Ramp was lowered from a rating of 6 (Satisfactory condition) to a rating of 5 (Fair condition) due to general age-related deterioration.
- 4) The condition rating on the Monastery Street Bridge over Open Land was lowered from a rating of 7 (Good condition) to a rating of 6 (Satisfactory condition) due to deterioration of the concrete piers.
- 5) The following bridges (both rated 7 – Good condition) were removed from City (DOTE) inventory as they were sold to a private owner:
 - Ewart Simpkinson Vehicular Bridge over Pete Rose Way
 - Ewart Simpkinson Pedestrian Bridge over Pete Rose Way
- 6) The following four bridges were removed from City (DOTE) inventory as they now belong to ODOT due to a change in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC 5501.49) on July 1, 2007.
 - Brighton Approach Bridge over Central Parkway (6 – Satisfactory condition)
 - Lytle Place Drive Tunnel under U.S. Route 50 (9 – As-built condition)
 - Freeman Avenue Bridge over Dalton, Sixth Street Expressway, Etc. (4 – Poor condition)
 - Martin Drive Ramp over Columbia Parkway and Open Land (6-satisfactory condition)

The decrease in the Weighted Average Bridge Rating for County Bridges that occurred this year (from 6.47 in 2006 to 5.98 in 2007) was the cumulative result of the following two changes:

- 1) The following 41 bridges were removed from County inventory as they are now the responsibility of ODOT due to a change in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC 5501.49) on July 1, 2007. By policy, ODOT District 8 was already effectively maintaining these 41 bridges.
 - Beechmont Avenue Bridge over the Little Miami River (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
 - Beechmont Avenue Culvert at Berkshire Lane (5 – Fair Condition)

- Beechmont Avenue Viaduct over Eastern and Railroad (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Clay Wade Bailey Approach Bridge (5 – Fair Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Beechmont Avenue (7 – Good Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Collins Avenue (7 – Good Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Heekin Avenue (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Linwood Avenue (5 – Fair Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Kemper Lane (7 – Good Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge over Ramp South of Leonard Street (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge West of Martin Drive Approach (8 – Very Good Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Bridge Immediately West of Martin Drive (8 – Very Good Condition)
- Columbia Parkway Viaduct over Eggleston (7 – Good Condition)
- Ft. Washington Way Viaduct – Eastbound (9 – As-Built Condition)
- Ft. Washington Way Viaduct – Westbound (8 – Very Good Condition)
- Gilbert Avenue Bridge over Eggleston (8 – Very Good Condition)
- Glenway Avenue Bridge over Chessie (7 – Good Condition)
- Kellogg Avenue Bridge over Little Miami River (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Kellogg Avenue Culvert North of Apple Hill (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Ludlow Avenue Viaduct North of William Dooley By-Pass (8 – Very Good Condition)
- McMillan Street Bridge over Reading Road (7 – Good Condition)
- Mehring Way Bridge over Broadway (7 – Good Condition)
- Mehring Way over Pedestrian Tunnel East of Suspension Bridge (7 – Good Condition)
- Montgomery Road Arch over SORTA (5 – Fair Condition)
- Norwood Lateral Bridge over Paddock Road (7 – Good Condition)
- Norwood Lateral Bridge over Reading Road (7 – Good Condition)
- River Road and Hillside Avenue Culvert at Bender (8 – Very Good Condition)
- River Road Bridge over Muddy Creek (7 – Good Condition)
- Salem Avenue Ramp over Kellogg Avenue (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Seventh Street Approach Bridge to Gilbert Avenue (7 – Good Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Eastbound over Gest Street (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Westbound over Gest Street (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Eastbound over Harriet Street (4 – Poor Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Westbound over Harriet Street (4 – Poor Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Eastbound over Linn Street (6 – Satisfactory Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Westbound over Linn Street (7 – Good Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Eastbound over Mill Creek (7 – Good Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Westbound over Mill Creek (6 – Satisfactory Condition)

- Sixth Street Expressway Eastbound over Private Drive (4 – Poor Condition)
- Sixth Street Expressway Westbound over Private Drive (4 – Poor Condition)
- Vine Street Bridge over Mill Creek (8 – Very Good Condition)

2) The rating for the Western Hills Viaduct was lowered from 5 (Fair condition) to 4 (Poor condition) due to corrosion and deterioration of the floor beams.