



Austin District's Preliminary Bridge Layout Review (PBLR) Process

January 7, 2023

District Change:

In an effort to streamline the Preliminary Bridge Layout Review (PBLR) process: Submitting PBLR requests to Bridge Division will be the responsibility of the TxDOT Project Manager responsible for the preparation of the Bridge Layout. This will include the laying out of new, replacement, and widenings (to include phasing or staging) for vehicular and pedestrian bridges.

Austin District Structural Engineering (Bridge and Hydraulic) Section's (Austin B&H) role will be to review Bridge Layouts/PBLR submittals before they are formally submitted to the Bridge Division (BRG).

Process in More Depth:

PBLR is required for every type of bridge work, regardless of funding type, before any major structural design work is done at approximately 30% to 60% PS&E completion. It is preferred that the PBLR be submitted before the 30% milestone for Bridge Division (BRG) review and approval. The review typically takes two weeks from the date of submittal to the BRG.

Austin B&H will review and comment on specifically all Bridge Layouts, and more generally the PBLR submittal package, with the expectation that all B&H comments are addressed before the formal submittal of the PBLR by the TxDOT PM to BRG. This a requirement in accordance with policy found in the [Bridge Project Development Manual](http://onlinemanuals.txdot.gov/txdotmanuals/bpd/bpd.pdf). (<http://onlinemanuals.txdot.gov/txdotmanuals/bpd/bpd.pdf>)

PBLR submittals should be addressed properly and COPIED to Biniam Aregawi, District Bridge Engineer and Henry Fernandez (of Austin B&H) and to Marie Fisk (of Bridge Division). Marie Fisk is Bridge Division's assigned PM for the Austin District.

Submit all structures to be let under a single project as ONE submittal to ensure uniformity of design and eliminate duplication of standards.

Preliminary Bridge Layout Review (PBLR) Submittal Process:

1. The District Bridge Engineer must approve preliminary layouts prior to submission to Bridge Division.
2. Once approved by Austin B&H, the layout is submitted to the Bridge Division's PS&E Review mailbox for approval- submittal is by **TxDOT PM**.
 - a. Email the submittal of the link to the PBLR folder in ProjectWise to BRG_PD_PSE@txdot.gov
 - b. Email Subject: PBLR, CSJ, County
Email CC: **Biniam Aregawi, District Bridge Engineer, Henry Fernandez, Marie Fisk**
3. After Bridge Division reviews the PBLR, they will send a Bluebeam link with the comments. Once all comments have been addressed, the TxDOT PM will respond to the Bluebeam email in the affirmative.
4. After Bridge Division closes out the comments, they will send a final email indicating PBLR approval/denial.
5. The layout is approved when Division review comments are resolved.

Bridge Division Submission Requirements:

1. The following requirements are in accordance with the "Bridge Project Development Manual", Chapter 5, Section 1 (link given earlier) and [PBLR and PS&E Review Standard Operating Procedures](#), Bridge Division, June 2020.
(https://tntoday.dot.state.tx.us/BRG/Documents/Site%20Documents/Bridge%20Management/PBLRPSE_BRG_SOP%2006_09_2020.pdf#search=PBLR%20and%20PS%26E%20Review%20Standard%20Operating%20Procedures)
2. Create a "PBLR" folder in PW: (add a generic path for the PW folder e.g., ...\\14 - AUS\Design Projects\CCCCSSJJ\4 - Design\Plan Review\2. PBLR)
Place the following in the "PBLR" folder in SEPARATE files (four files) for each structure in CSJ:
 1. Bridge layout and transverse section
 2. H&H Drainage Analysis Report and any H&H plan sheets available
 3. Plan and profile sheets of the roadway immediately before and after the bridge
 4. Form 1002 for bridge work types: New, Replacement, and Widening or Rehabilitation (please print the fillable/form pdf to plain pdf)
3. The following information is to be in the body of the email:
 1. District: _____
 2. County: _____
 3. CSJ: _____
 4. Facility and feature crossed: _____ at _____ (roadway/creek/river/railroad name)
 5. Ready-to-let date and proposed letting date: RTL _____ and Letting _____
 6. Project type: _____ (new construction, rehabilitation, replacement, widening, etc.)
 7. Bridge designer: _____ (district, division, consultant)
 8. Point-of-contact information: _____ (TxDOT project manager for in-house or consultant project)
 9. Request for review (BRG SOP states the review time needed is based on the number of bridge layouts included)
 10. Any relevant information that the division may need to complete its review
4. The following information is to be in the PW link:
 1. Preliminary bridge layout
 2. Typical sections sheet
 3. Construction sequence sheet (phasing)
 4. Hydraulic plan sheets that include hydrology and hydraulics for simpler hydraulic models
 5. Hydraulic reports and HEC RAS models for more complex hydraulic models
 6. The hydraulic report and scour analysis for all span bridges over a stream crossing. Also include the total calculated scour depth
 7. Plan and profile sheets showing the project limits and the completed original of Form 1002 (p. 3 of 3) for all projects funded by Category 6
 8. A map view of the project illustrating the relationship of the roadways if the project is an interchange, or an interchange exists within the vicinity
 9. The Railroad Exhibit A plan sheets, if applicable; Exhibit A must also be submitted to the Rail Division's Rail Safety Section



For any questions on this, please contact:

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