

TALBOT COUNTY BRIDGE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

Talbot County has nine (9) bridge structures with six (6) of these structures being classified as actual bridges. The remaining three structures are a series of culverts with a length of over 20 feet. Talbot County has been very proactive in the upgrading of county-owned bridges with the recent replacement of the Bellevue Bridge (2002), Bruceville Bridge (2005), Moneymake superstructure (2006) and the current replacement of the Kingston Bridge slated to open around September 1, 2007. Also, funds for the replacement of the Tunis Mills Bridge have been allocated in the current FY08 budget. After the replacement of the Tunis Mills Bridge, all six (6) Talbot County bridge structures will be twelve (12) years old or less. In addition, once Tunis Mills Bridge is complete, all county structures will allow for the safe passage of vehicles meeting Maryland legal load ratings, eliminating alternate detours for safety equipment such as fire and rescue vehicles as well as school buses, fuel delivery trucks, etc.

INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

Federal law requires that all bridges be inspected every two years, as well as underwater inspection of all bridges every five years. As presented in Table 1, the condition and ratings for each bridge owned by Talbot County has been provided from the last inspection performed in late 2005. Talbot County bridges will be inspected again at the end of this year (2007).

The inspections are enforced by the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), and SHA provides state approved consultants to the Counties to perform these inspections. One hundred percent of the cost of the inspections is paid from the County's allocation of Federal Bridge Funds provided by the Federal Transportation Act passed by Congress every six (6) years.

Hopefully this information is useful in addressing any of your concerns related to bridges owned by Talbot County. If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact Ray Clarke, Jesse Fearins or Chuck Weber within the Department of Public Works at 410-770-8170.

Table 1

Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Sufficiency Rating	Year Built	Construction Type	Surface	Overall Condition
T-0001	Tunis Mills Road over Leeds Creek	55.6	1963	Timber	Timber	Satisfactory
T-0002	Kingston Road over Kings Creek	45.2	2007	Timber	Asphalt	Good
T-0003	Bruceville Road over Miles Creek	88.1	2005	Timber	Asphalt	Good
T-0004	Bellevue Ferry Dock	81.7	2002	Timber	Asphalt	Good
T-0006	ver Kings CreekMullett Branch Road o	96.9	1960	Culvert Pipe	Asphalt	Satisfactory
T-0007	Wright's Mill Road over Miles Creek	99.9	1985	Culvert Pipe	Asphalt	Satisfactory
T-0008	Moneymake Road over Bolingbroke Creek	89.2	1988	Timber	Asphalt	Very Good
T-0009	er Potts MillRabbit Hill Road ov	88.0	1991	Culvert Pipe	Asphalt	Fair
T-0010	404 Alternate over Norwick Creek	99.0	1995	Concrete	Concrete	Good