



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

PAUL C. AJEGBA
DIRECTOR

April 1, 2021

Mr. Richard Lowe, Director
Office of Internal Audit Services
Office of the State Budget
George W. Romney Building
111 South Capitol Avenue, Sixth Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Mr. Lowe:

In accordance with the State of Michigan Financial Management Guide, Part VII, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is providing its corrective action plan in response to the Office of Auditor General's performance audit report of the Bridge Inspection Program and Michigan Bridge Management and Inspection System (MiBRIDGE), Michigan Department of Transportation, covering the period of October 1, 2016, through June 30, 2020 (Project 591-0169-19). The Office of Internal Audit Services, Office of the State Budget, has approved distribution of the plan.

Questions regarding the summary table or corrective action plan should be directed to either Matt Chynoweth, MDOT Chief Bridge Engineer at 517-243-4302, or Jack Cotter, CPA, CGMA, Commission Auditor, at 517-335-5920.

Sincerely,

Laura J. Mester
On behalf of
Paul C. Ajegba, P.E.
Director

Laura J. Mester
Apr 1 2021 7:46 AM

Enclosures

cc: Executive Office
Office of the Auditor General
Senate Fiscal Agency
Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee
Senate Transportation Standing Committee
House Fiscal Agency
House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee
House Transportation Standing Committee
State Transportation Commission Chair
Office of Commission Audits

Michigan Department of Transportation
Summary Table of Agency Responses to Recommendations
Audit Period October 1, 2016, through June 30, 2020

A. Audit recommendations the agency has complied with:

Finding 1.

B. Audit recommendations the agency agrees with and will comply:

None.

C. Audit recommendations the agency partially agrees with:

Findings 2., and 3.

Michigan Department of Transportation
Summary Table of Agency Responses to Recommendations
Audit Period October 1, 2016, through June 30, 2020

A. Audit recommendations the agency has complied with:

AUDIT FINDING

1. MDOT should continue to evaluate and improve its QC and QA practices over the State's bridge inspection program to help ensure increased accuracy and consistency of bridge inspection and load rating data.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that MDOT continue to evaluate and improve its QC and QA practices over the State's bridge inspection program to help ensure increased accuracy and consistency of bridge inspection and load rating data.

AGENCY RESPONSE

MDOT agrees with the OAG's conclusion that MDOT effectively administers the state's Bridge Inspection Program and agrees with the recommendation. MDOT administers the state's Bridge Inspection Program with a continual commitment to improvement.

Additionally, in regard to past FHWA reviews of MDOT's bridge inspection program, MDOT has always made proactive and reactive program modifications and developed policy that consistently result in FHWA findings of compliance and conditional compliance.

MDOT will continue to complete these actions on an annual basis.

B. Audit recommendations the agency agrees with and will comply:

None.

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C. **Audit recommendations the agency partially agrees with:**

AUDIT FINDING

2. MDOT should continue to improve its oversight to ensure that all bridge owners performed and completely documented their bridge inspection activities, such as QC, load rating, and scour assessments.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that MDOT should continue to improve its oversight to ensure that all bridge owners performed and completely documented their bridge inspection activities, such as QC, load rating, and scour assessments.

AGENCY RESPONSE

MDOT agrees that it should continue to improve its oversight efforts, consistent with our continuous improvement efforts.

MDOT has already augmented and implemented applicable policy and procedures to address the items in parts a., b., d., and e. The recommendation in part c. cannot be mitigated, as MDOT has no authority over Local Agency contracting.

AUDIT FINDING

3. MDOT, in conjunction with DTMB, did not fully establish and implement effective access and backup controls over MiBRIDGE to help ensure that only authorized users have access to bridge inspection and load rating data and minimize the risk of losing critical inspection data in the event of a system failure.

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend that MDOT, in conjunction with DTMB, fully establish and implement effective access and backup controls over MiBRIDGE.

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AGENCY RESPONSE

MDOT agrees with the recommendation, however, MDOT does not intend to take any action relative to this finding because of the low financial and/or business risk this finding poses and the fact that MiBRIDGE is being retired and a new system is being developed. MDOT accepts this risk in the near term and plans to mitigate this risk through the implementation of the new system.