Domestic Scan Proposal Form

AASHTO is now soliciting proposals for the **US Domestic Scan Program** (NCHRP Panel 20-68A).

Selected scan topics will be investigated by one of three ways: (type 1) site visits to three to six locations for approximately a two week period or less, by webinar; (type 2) peer exchange; or (type 3) conducted by a group of eight to 12 transportation professionals with expertise in the selected topic area. Proposed topics should meet the following criteria:

* Address an important and timely need for information by transportation agencies;
* Are of interest to a broad national spectrum of people and agencies;
* Are complex and also “hands-on,” meaning they lend themselves particularly well to exploration through on-site visits; and
* Are sufficiently focused that the tour participants are able to investigate and understand key issues in the limited time available on the tour.

Before submitting your proposal it is highly recommended that you read **What Makes a Good Scan Topic Proposal** [**http://www.domesticscan.org/what-makes-a-good-scan-topic-proposal**](http://www.domesticscan.org/what-makes-a-good-scan-topic-proposal)

This form is designed to collect the full length of your proposal. Sections requiring essays have unlimited space for you to use. Contact information has some limited text. ***Click on the highlighted boxes to advance to the area where you need to complete information.***

# Proposals should be returned no later than date list on NCHRP website.

**IMPORTANT NOTE on How to save your document**: ***LastNameFirst Initial, underscore\_Organization Acronym \_CY2021 Saved Document Name Example: NgetheP\_AASHTO\_CY2021***

***If you have more than one, add a number after first initial: NgetheP1\_AASHTO\_CY2021***

# Domestic Scan Proposal Contact Information

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**Agency/Member Department**

Michigan Dept of Transportation

**AASHTOCommittee**

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**Date of submission**

11/3/2021

Please **check** this box if your proposal has been endorsed or is being requested through an AASHTO Committee. List the AASHTO Committee(s) that endorsed this proposal: Click or tap here to enter text.

# Title of Proposed Scan:Best Practices on Direct Force Bridge Maintenance

**Problem Statement** (What topic is to be examined? What drives the need for the scan? Why now?)

State DOTs continue to face challenges associated with an aging bridge inventory and a need to respond quickly in order to reduce or eliminate impacts to traffic from inspection findings. A prioritized and/or more efficient bridge maintenance program may be the key to achieving mobility and condition goals. This proposal seeks to evaluate the bridge maintenance structure, resources, expertise, challenges, partnerships, knowledge transfer and best practices of several state DOTs. This information may be useful to agencies looking to scale up their direct force maintenance program, prioritize resources within their existing program, or implement innovations to deliver better value or reliability related to their bridge network.

**Scan Scope** (What specific subject areas are to be examined? Which cities and states might be visited? Which agencies/organizations (including specific departments or types of staff if applicable)?

Examine what resources states have at both regional and central level and their respective responsibilities, discuss capabilities of crews, training regimen and knowledge transfer, equipment that is owned or rented, how alignment and consistency is maintained, how maintenance staff interacts with vendors to trial new products, what level of testing and oversight is done with bridge maintenance work, best practices in maintaining moveable bridges and strategies for managing or avoiding modern PLC and limit switch system malfunction. Some examples of unique topics to be discussed could include bridge deck epoxy injections to reduce delaminations and bridge beam heat straightening by statewide crew (Michigan) and bridge maintenance academy training program (Minnesota).

**Anticipated Scan Results** (What key information is to be gained? What information is to be shared after the scan? Who would the audience be for this information?)

Best practices relative to direct force bridge maintenance, information on what type of organizational structure is effective for transportation agencies, how to properly size and prioritize a bridge maintenance program based on scale and overall condition of the network, ideas on innovative equipment or techniques that have made a significant impact on a bridge maintenance program, suggested procedures to minimize moveable bridge disruptions/system malfunctions including pre-emptive maintenance.

**Benefits Expected** (Including potential impacts on current technology or procedures) State transportation agencies will be able to use the information revealed during the domestic scan to make improvements or investments within their direct force bridge maintenance program and moveable bridges maintenance to provide increased value and reliability to their bridge network.