

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MEMORANDUM

TO: All Bridge Inspection Staff
Structural Evaluation

FROM: *GTR* Gregory T. Renman
Acting Manager, Structural Evaluation

DATE: November 29, 2010

PHONE: 530-5606

SUBJECT: Vertical Underclearance Verification

It is extremely important that during *every* routine inspection, engineers verify vertical underclearance measurements and the accuracy of any posting signs that may be present. Any posting problems require the prompt issuing of a Priority Repair.

While performing each routine inspection, engineers must perform the following checks:

Measurement Verification:

1. Verify all readily-obtainable clearance measurements. This includes checking all clearance measurements on low-traffic roadways. For high-traffic roadways, check clearances where possible (curb lines, shoulders, etc.). If any significant discrepancies are found in these areas, it is necessary to re-measure *all* clearances, using proper MPT.
2. Check that clearance measurements are recorded for all required locations.
3. Verify that no posting action is needed for vertical underclearance.

Posting Verification:

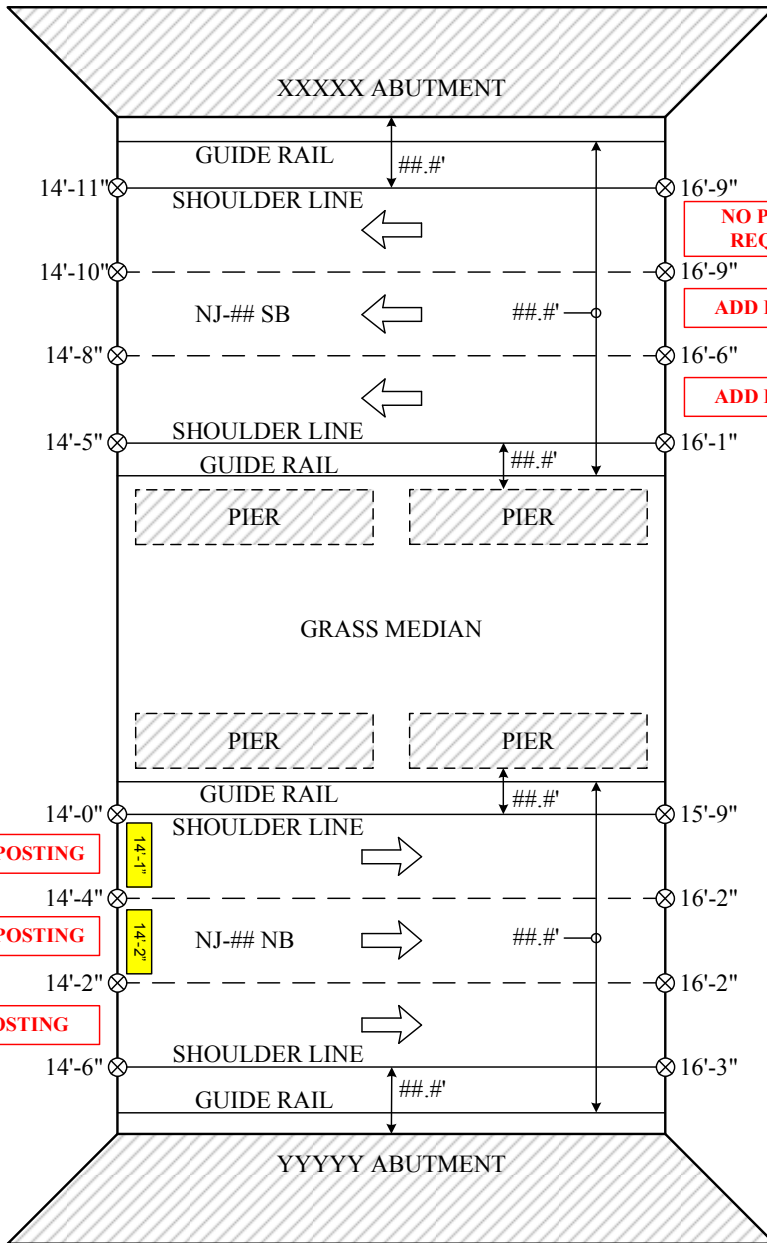
1. Check that existing posting signs contain an adequate margin of safety (as per Memo dated July 22, 2008, "Vertical Underclearance Posting Memorandum" *).
2. Check that existing posting signs meet requirements for multiple lane posting (as per Memo dated August 17, 2009, "Clarifications to Vertical Underclearance Posting Requirements" *)
3. Check that existing posting signs are in the proper location(s).
4. Check that existing posting signs are visible, legible, and easily recognized and understood.

* Memorandums available online at <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/eng/structeval/downloads.shtml> under the Bridge Inspection Clarifications section.

If any clearance issue requires a Priority Memorandum for posting (or re-posting), the memo must be clearly written to indicate the specific problem(s) as well as the location(s). The memo must contain any applicable elevation photographs as an attachment. Additionally, the memo must contain a clearance sketch that shows all clearance data, any existing posting locations, and any proposed posting locations (see attached sample sketch).

If you have any questions, please contact Rajesh C. Patel, P.E., Project Manager at (609) 530-5605.

GTR/RCP



REVISE POSTING

REVISE POSTING

ADD POSTING

NO POSTING REQUIRED

ADD POSTING

ADD POSTING



⊗ = SPOT CLEARANCE
 ##-##" = EXISTING CLEARANCE POSTING

UNDERCLEARANCES
 N.T.S.