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| FHWA Mark B&W | Memorandum |

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| Subject: | INFORMATION: “Implementation Guidance for Using Spread Footings on Soils to Support Highway Bridges” | | Date: May 1, 2014 |
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|  | ***/s/ Original Signed by*** | |  |
| From: | Amy C. Lucero, P.E. | | In Reply Refer To: |
|  | Director of Technical Services | | DTS-1 |
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| To: | Associate Administrator for RD&T  Federal Lands Division Engineers  Director, Office of Bridge Technology  Division Administrators | |  |
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Distributed with this memorandum are two recent reports on spread footings. These reports are intended to aid highway engineers in the deployment of spread footing foundations on various types of soils where they would perform well and be cost-effective. These reports reinforce and support the guidance for selection, design, and construction of spread footings provided in other FHWA technical references.

Both reports rely on results of national surveys of state practice that identified the extent of use and described the performance of bridges with spread footings. The surveys also identified obstacles for their use. Recommendations to address these obstacles and guidance to implement these recommendations are furnished. The reports also provide technical guidance for LRFD implementation. The 2010 report refers to figures and explanations in past NHI Reference Manuals. The 2014 report relies less on the past work, introduces new terminology and ways to address the obstacles, and provides more information on the state of practice. These reports will help ensure that the value of spread footings is understood, that they are considered and selected when appropriate, and that designers have the resources to select and design them well.

With this memorandum, we are distributing four copies for the Office of Bridge Technology, four copies for each Division Office (including three copies for State DOT to be distributed to their geotechnical, bridge, and research offices), four copies for the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, and four copies for each Federal Lands Office. Limited additional copies of the report can be obtained from Dr. Naser Abu-Hejleh at 708-283-3550 or [Naser.Abu-Hejleh@dot.gov](mailto:Naser.Abu-Hejleh@dot.gov). We expect to post the report online in the future. Questions regarding these publications may be directed to Dr. Naser Abu-Hejleh, P.E. or to Geotechnical Engineering TST Manager, Dr. Scott Anderson, P.E. at 720-963-3244 or [Scott.Anderson@dot.gov](mailto:Scott.Anderson@dot.gov)

Attachments