

Who we are:

Transportation is so basic that many of us overlook its overwhelming importance in our daily lives. Practically everything used in our homes, offices, or schools across Tennessee – from furniture to food items to clothing – requires a large and complex transportation network. The Tennessee Department of Transportation provides citizens of Tennessee and travelers with one of the best transportation systems in the country. TDOT is a multimodal agency with responsibilities in building and maintaining roads, aviation, public transit, waterways, railroads, cycling and walking. Our involvement ranges from airport improvements to funding transit buses to planning for river ports. The Department of Transportation has approximately 3,500 employees with four statewide region facilities in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Jackson. TDOT Aeronautics is located near the John C. Tune Airport in Nashville, TN.



Bridge Rating Team Lead

Engineering Division – Bridge Performance Section

Nashville, TN

\$109,200 annually

Job Overview

The Bridge Rating Team Lead will lead, mentor, and train the Bridge Rating Team through empowerment, communication, and delegated authority. This position will implement work plans that align with the Bridge Rating Unit's strategic vision and will effectively delegate authority and responsibility, when applicable, while providing the resources needed for the Bridge Rating Team to be successful. Serve as the liaison and policy advisor to the Department's Regions, local agency bridge owners, and bridge authorities in support of their bridge rating and load rating responsibilities. The Bridge Rating Team Lead will take the lead in fostering the collaborative effort necessary to support transportation projects that meet the scope, schedule, and budget.

This position will implement department policies, technical guidance, procedures, and manuals for the inspection, load rating, and performance assessment of TDOT's bridge assets. This position is responsible for assisting with the development and implementation of a data-driven bridge assessment and rating system to be used in developing risk-based bridge repair, rehabilitation, and replacement recommendations. The Bridge Rating Team Lead will supervise technical staff and will implement performance plans, schedules, and budgets, ensuring the expected outcomes, performance, and accountability of each team member. The Bridge Rating Team Lead will pilot national best practices with the Bridge Inspection Leads in each Region and will report and recommend ideas that drive innovation and efficiency.

Essential Job Responsibilities

Manage resources and staff utilization to allow the Bridge Rating Team to perform their roles effectively and efficiently, optimizing the Team's ability to successfully address quality program and systemic issues, and collaborate with design teams. Manage subordinate employees by planning, organizing, coordinating, and scheduling assigned structural engineering work related to load rating. Supervise employees by communicating regularly, motivating, training, conducting performance reviews, planning, and directing employees' work.

Establish and ensure there is a direct relationship between quality and work outcomes by developing and implementing standards for the Bridge Performance Section in collaboration with the Engineering, Construction, and Maintenance Divisions; assist with quality control tasks as per the TDOT Quality Assurance Process with respect to load rating structural elements according to Federal and state standards, regulations, and policies. Coordinate with the Bridge Inspection Program Manager and Bridge Management Systems/Inventory Manager to ensure consistency and uniformity of

quality assurance contract application in those areas. Advise Leadership on federal compliance, audits, and other load rating program issues as they relate to the Department and/or local agencies. Administer quality control tasks according to the TDOT Quality Assurance Process and TDOT Bridge Evaluation manuals to achieve improved performance and increase sustainability of TDOT's bridges.

Assist in the development of a Consultant Acquisition Plan (CAP) by providing strategic leadership in utilizing consultants for program and project delivery and oversee consultant activities to ensure quality products and services are provided. Serve on selection committees for professional engineering services. Provide support in the development of the Request for Proposal (RFP) by attending project-specific marketing meetings, determining scoring criteria, participating in project information sessions, serving as a scorer as part of the consultant acquisition process, and attending de-briefs with consultants, including those projects for which Alternative Delivery methods are applied.

Lead the Bridge Rating Team in providing exceptional customer service by exercising effective listening skills, providing prompt responses, maintaining complete and accurate documentation, and communicating effectively.

Manage change by serving as the conduit between executive direction and the envisioned change, clarify the vision, take ownership of the change, communicate effectively, remain transparent, and hold yourself and others accountable throughout the process as part of the Bridge Rating team. Determine specialized engineering program needs and opportunities in the load rating area and coordinate with programs in other divisions. Attend training, technical conferences, and serve on TDOT, Local Agency, and industry committees.

Ensure uniform interpretation and application of the load rating requirements for all publicly and privately owned bridges and tunnels, and ensure compliance with the FHWA standards and regulations, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) requirements, and other applicable state laws and guidelines. Lead the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) as it pertains to an awareness of the technology's capabilities as it relates to collaborative efforts with the UAS Program for the purposes of Load Rating applications e.g. bridge element and how deterioration measurements can be performed digitally from UAS data.

Remain current on national best practices as it relates to the structural evaluation guidelines, design codes, TDOT structures standard drawings, and other applicable Department guidelines and standards. Serve as the technical expert for all aspects of load rating, from the most general aspects (e.g., simple span and redundant bridges) to specialized aspects (e.g., non-redundant, long span, and damaged bridges) including components for complex bridges having the highest degree of risk and complex bridge replacements.

Guide the development and implementation of a tracking mechanism that ensures the contractual agreements, scope, schedule, budget, and quality of all Bridge Rating projects support the delivery of the Department's Work Program while also ensuring compliance with Federal and State traffic design and regulations. Meet with Region personnel and local agency bridge owners and consultants for discussions to aid in securing a uniform interpretation and application of evaluation and load rating procedures and ensuring statewide compliance with requirements related to bridge evaluation and load rating as set forth in the governing regulations.

Provide oversight in the development of the bridge rating deliverables to ensure they are consistent, predictable, and repeatable to provide consistently high levels of achievement, mitigation of risk, and an established track record of success. Ensure alignment and compliance with Division and Section Metrics and Performance goals.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in civil engineering, with an emphasis in structural engineering preferred
- Licensed Professional Engineer (PE)

- 5 years of demonstrated competency in a bridge rating / bridge engineering related field
- National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) and (Nonredundant Steel Tension Members) NSTM Team Leader certified preferred

Ideal Candidate

The Bridge Rating Team Lead focuses on establishing and working toward a future-focused strategy, and their role is the key to maintaining the bridge for the future. They are problem-solvers at their core. They thrive on bringing many data points and critical factors together with their team to understand current performance and to influence future performance positively. They collaborate, leveraging input, experience, and detailed analysis to affect performance and reduce risks. The Bridge Rating Team Lead is never satisfied because there is always another risk to find and mitigate, and there are always opportunities for improvement. They have initiative and tenacity and communicate their findings and solutions effectively because they know improvement in bridge performance contributes to better returns from a safety, risk, and financial perspective.