



AGC & DOT Fall Webinar

December 4, 2025

Topics / Agenda

- Electronic Standard Specifications
- Update Items
 - Alternative Contracting Methods
 - Davis Bacon Wage Rates
 - DBE Changes – Oct 3, 2025 Rule
 - Buy America
 - SHPO & Environmental Clearance (Joanne – action items from the discussion)
 - Contractor Idea Submittal
- Contractor / DOT Breakout Sessions
 - Work Zone & Workforce Safety
 - Project Scheduling
 - Grading and Aggregates
 - Concrete
 - Structures
 - Asphalt Paver
- DOT Construction Program Update
- Spring Summit – Feb 25 & 26
 - Topics, Themes, Speakers, Focus Etc

Electronic Specifications

- 10/7/2025 SDDOT Standard Specifications for Roads and Bridges (Spec Book)
 - Electronic version only
 - No printed copies available
 - Tied to letting date based on version date
 - Includes clickable TOC and hyperlinks to various sections throughout book
 - Updated with changes included each time

Specification Changes

- Div I Specifications
 - Rearranged and reword language throughout
 - Supplemental Specs and some Special Provisions
 - Cooperation by Contractor
 - Buy America
 - Preconstruction Meetings
 - Price Schedule for Miscellaneous Items
 - Schedule with changes



Specification Changes (Cont)

- Contract Changes
 - Differing site conditions, Significant changes in character of work, Extra work, Suspension of work, Eliminated items
 - Notification
- Price Schedule for Miscellaneous Items
 - Updated prices for dust control and extra haul items
 - Added fixed prices for various detour maintenance items like haul roads
- Time Extensions
 - Delays, Compensation
- Compensation for Contract Changes
 - Unit, Negotiated, Force Account, Delay Costs, Non-Allowed Charges



Future Specification Updates

- Continue moving some existing special provisions to spec book
- Notes from last 10 years
- Outcomes of various AGC/DOT breakout groups
- Final needs to be to FHWA by early July annually to meet October letting



Alternative Contracting Methods



One on One Meetings with Contractors

- Staffing expertise
- Fairness in prequalification
- Out of state competition
- DOT review – Direction
 - Emergency procurement
- Next Steps
 - Update Road Map Guidance

Labor Law Compliance / Davis-Bacon Wage Rates



- Methodology to Determine Prevailing Wage
 - Majority (over 50%) of classification are the same
 - Wage rate earned by at least 30%
 - Weighted average of all in classification
- Submitted Request to Update Wages Dec 2024
 - Included added wage classifications
- USDOL indicates they are reviewing / Expect Implementing in Spring 2026

Wage Survey Update

JOB GROUP CODE	CLASS DESCRIPTION	CURRENT MINIMUM WAGES	BASIC HOURLY WAGE RATE	HOURLY FRINGE RATE	TOTAL	NET CHANGE	
						DOLLAR	PERCENT
Electricians							
GE1		34.82	35.43 (Weighted Average)	8.69 (Weighted Average)	44.13	9.31	26.73%
LABORERS							
GL1		22.38	26.93 (Weighted Average)	0	26.93	4.55	20.32%
GL2		23.16	26.96 (Weighted Average)	0	26.96	3.80	16.41%
GL3		24.41	28.97 (Weighted Average)	0	28.97	4.56	18.68%
GL5		31.94	31.94 (30%)	0	31.94	0.00	0.00%
GL6		26.45	29.81 (Weighted Average)	0	29.81	3.36	12.70%
Power Equipment Operator							
GO1		24.57	30.16 (Weighted Average)	0	30.16	5.59	22.75%
GO2		24.68	31.73 (Weighted Average)	0	31.73	7.05	28.55%
GO3		26.07	31.56 (Weighted Average)	0	31.56	5.49	21.04%
GO4		27.18	32.49 (Weighted Average)	0	32.49	5.31	19.54%
GO5		30.01	34.96 (Weighted Average)	8.36 (Weighted Average)	43.32	13.31	44.36%
Truck Driver							
GT1		24.52	30.01 (Weighted Average)	0	30.01	5.49	22.38%
GT2		30.16	32.07 (Weighted Average)	8.42 (Weighted Average)	40.49	10.33	34.26%
Ironworker							
I01	New Classification pulled from GL1	22.38			26.93		
I02	New Classification pulled from GL3	24.41			28.97		
Painter							
P01	New Classification pulled from GL2	23.16			26.96		
P02	New Classification pulled from GL6	26.45			29.81		

DBE Update / Changes

- Oct 3, 2025 Interim Final Rule
- Temporarily removed DBE's from directory
- Removed Special Provision from upcoming contracts
- Goals and monitoring suspended on Oct 3rd
- Re-evaluation process of existing DBE
 - Survey Sent Dec 1st
 - Submit personal narrative and personal net worth form
- Notification through list serv once program back operational
- FAQ and Guidance is available

Buy America

For projects obligated on or after October 1, 2025, all manufactured products permanently incorporated into the project must be manufactured in the United States
(Final assembly requirement)

Products Requiring Buy America Compliance:

- Iron & Steel
- Construction Materials
- Manufactured Products

Excluded Materials:

- Cement and Cementitious Materials
- Aggregates such as Stone, Sand, or Gravel
- Aggregate Binding Agents or Additives

SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS BUY AMERICA CERTIFICATE

COUNTY

CONTRACTOR

SUBCONTRACTOR

SUBMITTED BY

Contractors should submit
documentation of origin
PRIOR to installation

The following items or materials used in the construction of the above-mentioned contract comply with the Buy America requirements specified in the Special Provision for Buy America for those items or materials where Buy America compliance is not already explicitly stated on another form of certification.

Component Description	Quantity	Manufacturer	Heat or Lot Number (as Applicable)

Domestic Materials Self-Certification Form

This certification is for a manufacturer/supplier to certify the below articles, materials, or supplies are in compliance with the applicable domestic material content procurement preferences found in the Buy America Act requirements (23 CFR 635.410) and the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) requirements (2 CFR part 184). The individual completing this form takes full responsibility for the information included in the form. State agencies have the authority to request additional details related to the information provided in the form. All forms shall be submitted via AASHTO DataMine for delivery to authorized governmental users through the Industry Document Repository. The manufacturer/supplier is required to include updates to process changes within 10 days of the change occurring via uploading a revised form into DataMine.

PART 1: COMPANY CONTACT INFORMATION

Company/Producer/Manufacturer Name:

Supplier Representative Name:

Contact Email Address:

Contact Phone Number:

Date Form is Being Submitted: mm/dd/yyyy

PART 2: DETAILS OF THE ARTICLE, MATERIAL, OR SUPPLY:

Using Table 1 below, provide the classification of the article, material, or supply as one of the following: (1) iron or steel product; (2) construction material (3) manufactured product; or (4) excluded materials including Section 70917(c) materials.

Classification	
Producer of the Article, Material, or Supply:	
Product/Model/Part/Material:	
Manufacturing Address:	
Manufacturing City:	
Manufacturing State:	
Manufacturing Zip Code:	
DataMine # (if applicable):	
Federal/State/Local Project number(s):	
Pay Code Number (PCN):	

AASHTO Datamine Industry Document Repository (IDR) Form

For a manufacturer/supplier to certify materials or supplies are in compliance with the applicable domestic material content procurement preferences found in the Buy America Act requirements (23 CFR 635.410) and the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) requirements (2 CFR part 184).

Unavailability of Materials

- If the Contractor discovers a Buy America compliant item does not exist or an item becomes unavailable, the Contractor will immediately notify the Department.
- The Contractor will furnish written documentation of the Contractor's complete efforts to obtain a compliant item.
 - This documentation will include a complete contact log with dates and times of the Contractor's efforts to obtain a compliant item, the responses received, and any correspondence between the Contractor and potential suppliers of the item which demonstrate efforts to obtain a compliant item.
- If, based on review of the documentation provided, the Department determines all potential options to obtain a compliant item have been exhausted, the Department will determine the appropriate course of action.



Unavailability of Materials

- If the non-compliant item is not permanently incorporated into the completed work, the Contractor will not permanently incorporate the item and will replace the non-compliant item with an item that complies with the Buy America requirements specified herein at the Contractor's expense
- If the non-compliant item has been permanently incorporated into the completed project; the Engineer, in the Engineer's discretion, will determine if the non-compliant item must be removed and replaced including any completed work at the Contractor's expense or if the non-compliant item may remain in place in accordance with both of the following requirements (de minimis)



De Minimis

Minor quantities of non-compliant iron & steel may be incorporated in the Department's discretion based on the Department's review of the Contractor's documented invoiced material costs, provided the invoiced material costs of all non-compliant iron & steel do not exceed 0.1% of the total contract amount or \$2,500, whichever is greater.



De Minimis

Minor quantities of non-compliant iron & steel, manufactured (composite) products, and construction materials may be incorporated in the Department's discretion based on the Department's review of the Contractor's documented **invoiced material costs**, provided the total value of the non-compliant items does not exceed 5.0% of the **total applicable costs** for the project or \$1,000,000, whichever is less.

- Requires invoices for all materials on the project subject to Buy America requirements (from all contractors on the project)

If you are aware of issues obtaining compliant materials in any category, please notify the department



SHPO & Environmental Clearances

- NDDOT Previously Cleared Sites - <https://www.dot.nd.gov/construction-and-planning/material-source-approval>
- FHWA & Commercial Pits – FHWA acknowledging if there is an active permit for a commercial pit no additional coordination is needed from a 106 standpoint.
- Ability to Hire Outside Resources – <https://dot.sd.gov/doing-business/engineering-design-services/consultant-services/State/State-Archaeology/Paleontology>
- Where/when DOT can help when and if issues arise.

Contractor Idea Process

- Consultant Admin, Testing, & Inspections (NEW)
- Pier Wall Design – Caps on Slab Bridges
- Permanent Casing for Drilled Shafts
- Improve Ability to Search Past Projects on Website
- Provide Accurate Asphalt Depths in Plans
- Specification of Geogrid
- Bridge Joint – Armor Angle vs. Membrane Seal; Strip Seal Shop Drawings
- Rails Design on T101 Base Plates
- Estimating Bridge Deck Patching & Materials
- Bridge Approach Smoothness

Improvement Idea Submittal Form

South Dakota Department of Transportation Contractor Suggestion or Idea for Improvement

Improvement Title: *(Concisely name the topic)*

Problem Statement: *(What is the nature of the problem needing solution or the opportunity for improved practice?)*

Proposed Modification, Changes or Solution: *(What do you propose to solve the problem or make a meaningful improvement?)*

Benefits: *(How would change or improvement benefit the Department of Transportation, Contractors, stakeholders and/or customers?)*

Urgency: *(How soon must this be initiated or completed to be useful? Why?)*

Follow Up: *(Do you want to be contacted? Are you willing to participate in improvement discussion / meetings? Is there a need to form a DOT/Contractor improvement team?)*

Submitted By:

Name:

Title:

Organization:

Address:

City, State, Zip Code:

Phone/Fax:

E-mail:



Updates from Summit Breakout Sessions

- Work Zone Safety — Christina Bennett, Jon Suomala
- Misc / Admin (Project Schedules) — Travis Dressen, Mark Peterson, Cal Lottman, Jared Gusso
- Grading and Aggregates — Tanner Fitzke, Todd Seaman, Rob Knight, Shaw Louiseau
- Concrete — Darin Hodges, Matt Brey, Bruce Schroeder, Jesse Bruns, Eric Priesz
- Structures — Steven Johnson, Jason Humphrey, Josh Dede, Dave Dailey
- Asphalt — Shea Lemmel, Greg Rothschadl, Korey Bender, John Morris, Mike Brever

Work Zones and Work Force Safety

Survey to Contractors and DOT on potential flagger safety and compliance improvements

- **Device Improvements:**

- Telescoping flagger sign post
- Beacon on flagger sign
- Use of portable changeable message signs with “FLAGGERS AHEAD” messages
- Vehicle speed feedback signs approaching flagger stations
- Temporary portable rumble strips in advance of flagger stations
- Temporary signal with pilot car
- Automated Flagger Assistance Devices (AFADs)



Work Zones and Work Force Safety

- **PPE:**

- Require Class 3 high-visibility apparel for flaggers at all times

- **Procedural:**

- Pre-shift safety briefings with flaggers and crews
- Incident reporting and near-miss tracking process
- Payment/rotation structure for relief flaggers
- Temporary traffic signals or STOP control instead of flaggers for long-term setups with adequate sight distance
- Law enforcement presence at active flagging locations



Work Zones and Work Force Safety

- **Other:**

- Enhanced worker protection laws/penalties for violations in work zones
- Technology integration with navigation apps (e.g., iCone/Waze alerts)
- Clarified language proficiency requirements for flaggers
- Exploration of body cameras on flaggers

*Special thank you to the
work group members who
helped develop the survey
ideas and work on the
recommendations!*

Dean Herll, BX Civil

Jeff Luce, Asphalt Paving

Joan Lund, D&G Concrete

Jory Torres, Chief Road Supply, LLC

Josh Dede, Journey Construction
Group

Christina Bennett, DOT

Kevin Heiman, DOT

Jason Baker, DOT

Jon Suomala, DOT

Mark Peterson, DOT



Survey Results

Contractors (21)

- Temporary Portable Rumble Strips
- AFADs
- Enhanced worker protection laws/penalties for violations in work zones
- Beacon on Flagger Sign

DOT (20)

- Temporary Portable Rumble Strips
- Temporary traffic signals or STOP control with adequate sight distance
- AFADs
- Require Class 3 apparel



Survey Results – Other Suggested Improvements

- Higher fines for speeding in work zones and using cell phones
- Speed zones to step down approaching traffic just as we do to lane closures on the Interstate
- LED lighted border STOP/SLOW paddles
- Message board that states WAIT FOR PILOT CAR
- Getting out PSAs or driver education promotions
- Instructions to flaggers to know what to do in case of vehicles approaching and what to do to get out of the way
- Eliminate personal technology devices (phones, tablets, etc.)
- Training for those overseeing flaggers



AFAD Feedback

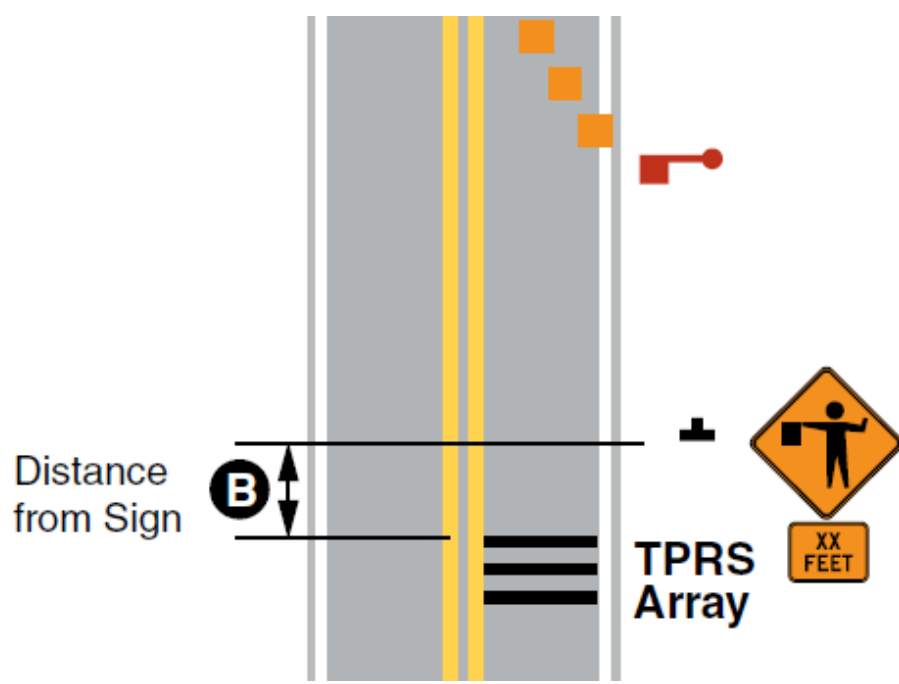
SD73 Grading Project

- Worked really well
 - Easy to haul from station to station
 - Especially good during bad weather
 - Easier for the flagger
- STOP/SLOW version
 - Easy for drivers to understand
 - Flagger hits a button on the AFAD to change
- One issue late in the project but they came out and fixed right away
- Only negative: Does not come with lights for night operation



2026 Projects

- Identifying projects to incorporate AFADs and TPRS
 - AFADs added to PCN 09VF Asphalt Concrete Surfacing project on SD25 (12/3 Letting)
 - Adding TPRS to PCN 079F/06PH Asphalt Paving on SD34 & SD73 (12/10 Letting)
- May also pilot payment for a relief flagger
 - Working on plan note development and requirements



English Proficiency in Flagger Certification

Recent project incident revealed certified flaggers unable to read or speak English
Contractors have requested Spanish versions of the flagger test/manual, however, SDDOT has denied these requests because effective English communication is a bona fide occupational qualification for certified flaggers

Flaggers must communicate clearly with:

- The traveling public
- Other flaggers
- Work zone personnel

Multiple testing pathways (SDLearn, paper tests via certified instructors) create opportunities for falsification or assistance, increasing risk

- This is a critical safety issue, not an effort to restrict opportunities for individuals with limited English proficiency



English Proficiency in Flagger Certification

SDDOT will clearly state in the Flagger Manual and certification materials that: **“Individuals must be proficient in reading, speaking, and understanding English to be certified as a flagger in South Dakota.”**

Requirement ensures flaggers can respond quickly and appropriately during dynamic or emergency work zone situations

Applies to all certification pathways:

- SDLearn online training/test
- Paper testing through certified instructors
- Cards issued by DOT, Dept. of Labor offices, TERO/TECRO programs, and contractors



Miscellaneous & Administration

- Project Schedules (Sec. 8.4 - Prosecution & Progress)
 - Collaborative Scheduling
 - Training
- Lane Rent Time Provision
- Prompt Payment – Lump Sum Items
- Price Schedule for Miscellaneous Items
- Move Over Law Enforcement



Grading and Aggregates

- Section 4.4 - Price Schedule for Miscellaneous Items
 - Full update in Fall of 2023 with new Labor Rates
 - Partial update with inclusion in 2025 spec book
 - Dust Control Items
 - Water for dust control - \$35 / Mgal
 - Chloride (short term) - \$0.70 / Lb
 - Chloride (long term) - \$0.95 / Lb
 - Extra Haul
 - Scraper \$0.10 / CY Station
 - Truck – Up to first 5.0 miles - \$0.60 / CY Station or \$0.30 / Ton Mile
 - Truck – Each Additional Mile - \$0.50 / CY Station or \$0.25 / Ton Mile
 - New Items added for Maintenance of Detour Routes tied to new Section 602



Grading and Aggregates

- Surveying – Contractor Staking Special Provision
 - Original Issues:
 - What stakes are required when, and at what frequency (Contractor / DOT) / legibility
 - Consistency across Area Offices enforcing the provision requirements, final surveys
 - Machine Controlled Grading & Conventional Staking (electronic design files or not)
 - Met Internally – staking needs can differ west river vs east river, provision definitions
 - More Issues:
 - How to handle staking changes that result from field / plan changes?
 - process to involve designer or not / preliminary survey needs post-letting / GPS paving
 - Do there need to be staking provisions tailored to more types of projects?
 - Grading, FDR, Asphalt, Concrete, Structure, Urban Reconstruction, etc.
 - Next Steps – volunteers since Spring Summit, goal to meet this winter



Concrete

- Lower Strength to Open PCCP to Traffic - Done! not carrying Forward
 - Already in new Spec Book

2500psi opening to traffic (2000 for construction equipment) & min of 4,000 psi at 28 days.
- Alternative for Type III Cement – Done! Not carrying Forward
 - Standard Plan note added for steel girder bridge abutments.

Higher min fresh temp , Lower W/C, higher slump, High Range W.R.



Concrete

- Meeting Nov. 10th 25
 - Highlights
 - Smoothness Incentive/disincentive for ramps and wide areas (currently 12')
 - New Equipment options for PI smoothness
 - Mix Design adjustments during production and need for faster process
- SDRMCA/SDDOT Meeting Nov. 19th 25
 - Good Discussions
 - New Technology
 - A45 Low Strength Implementation update



Structures Group

- Several Ideas are under consideration
 - Sandblast or water blast prior to penetrative sealer
 - Overburden on riprap
 - Slipform barrier construction
 - Manufacturer Rep present for placement of membrane Seal
 - Z1 Bar mechanical splice (ties abutment to approach slab)
 - Best practice for high strength bolt tightening and inspection
 - Plastic chairs to prevent rebar damage
 - Concrete strength review
 - Backfilling Abutments and Box Culverts
 - Approach and Sleeper Slab



Structures Group

- Ideas that were discussed but are not proceeding with changes
 - Stay in place forms
 - Piling under sleeper slab
 - Adding armor angle on sleeper slab
 - Deeper recess of membrane seal
 - Pile splice specification changes
 - Tammscoat application timeframe

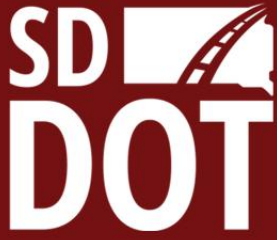


Asphalt Pavers Group

- 40% RAP Projects
- QC/QA Pay Factor
- Next Meeting?



2025 AGC/DOT Fall Meeting Funding Update



- Set to Expire in September 2026



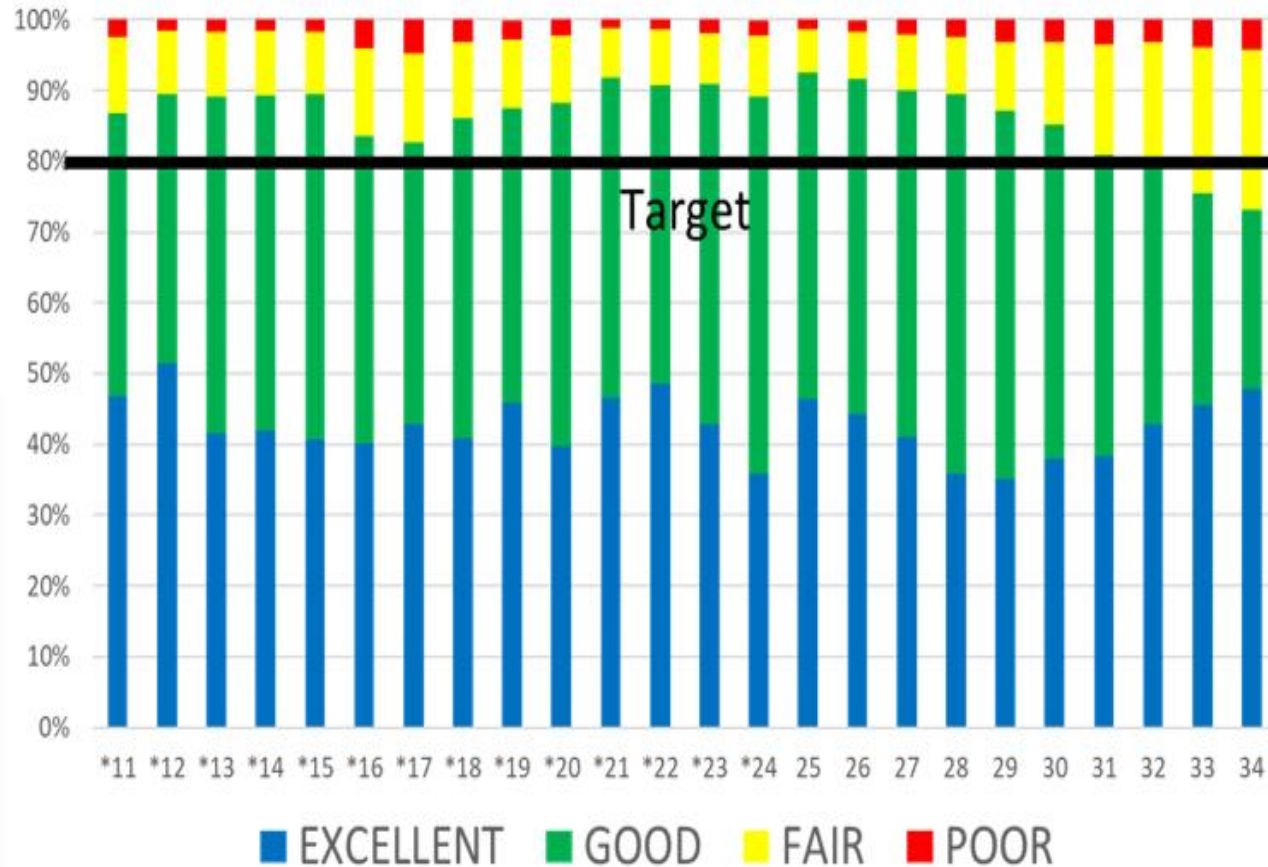
New Surface Highway Bill

- Focus on Formula Funds
- Balance through grants
- Simplification/Streamline



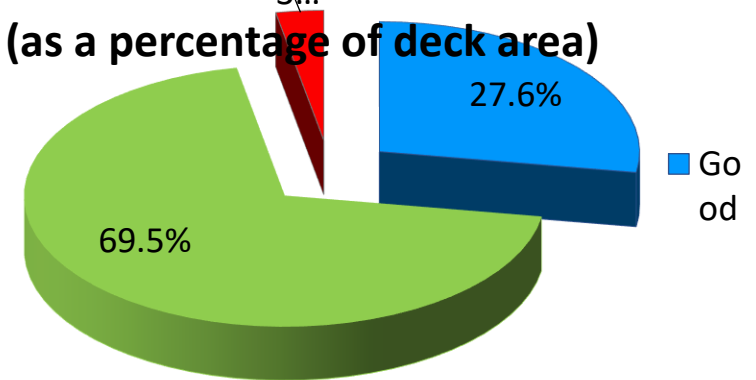
Pavements

Historical & Projected
Future Pavement
Condition Based on
Current Investment

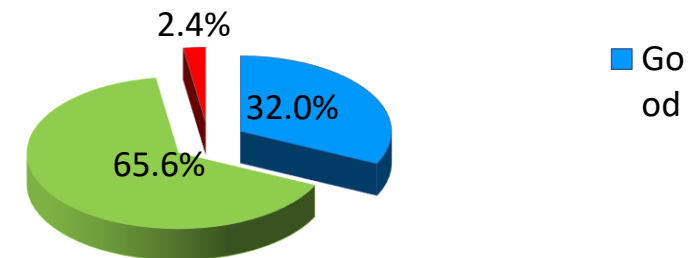




**2025 Condition of State owned
Structures
(as a percentage of deck area)**



**2025 Condition of State owned
Structures
(as a percentage of total
structures)**



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

Deadwood “Box”

2029 Letting

\$50 Million

Route Location Study
& Design Underway



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

Platte-Winner Bridge
on SD44

FY 2026

\$250 Million

Final Plans Complete



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

US 212 over Missouri
near Forest City

2032 Letting

\$400 Million

Route Location Study
Underway



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

US 12 over the Missouri River along with a BNSF Crossing in Mobridge

FY 2034

\$313 Million

Study to begin soon



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

I90 over the Missouri River
near Chamberlain

FY 2038

\$298 Million

Long Range Planning



Major Bridge Project *In the Works:*

SD 1806 over the Grand River (Singing Bridge)

FY2039

\$218 Million

Long Range Planning



FUNDING FOR STATE STRUCTURES

▶ **STATE FUNDS**

Fuel Tax & Excise Tax

- Match for federal funds
- Structure maintenance

▶ **FEDERAL FUNDS**

Federal legislation-IIJA

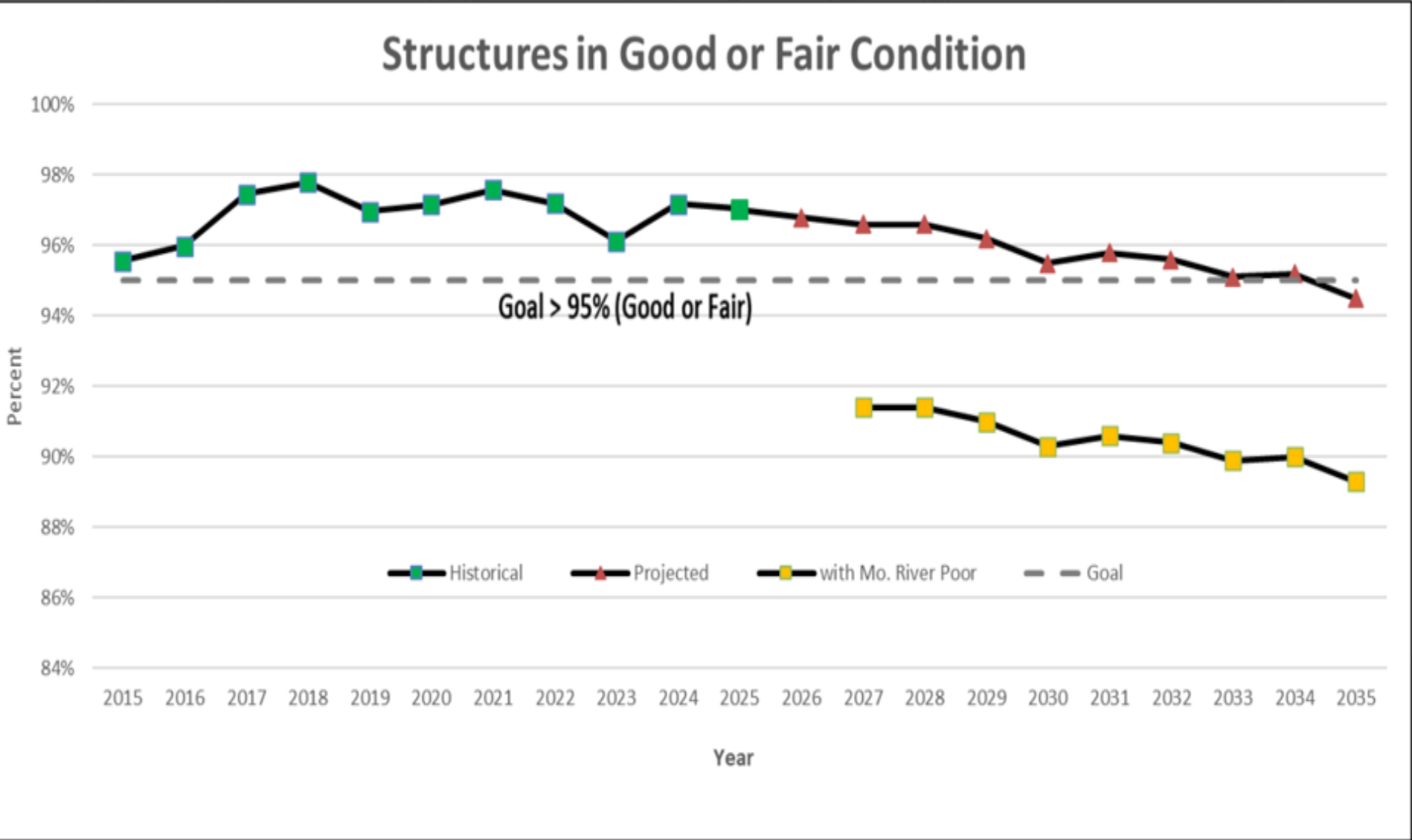
- Bridge Formula Funds
- Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds
- Competitive Bridge Grants



SD
DOT



Historical & Projected Condition – Including if 4 Missouri River Bridges are Poor





Long Term

Joel/Toby
?

Robust Federal
Bill

AGC & DOT Summit – Feb 25/26



- Topics / Focus Areas
- Breakout Sessions
- Region Project Open House
- Presenters / Speaker Ideas

Questions / Discussion