



Bridge Group

Roads and Streets Conference Tucson, AZ April 10, 2009



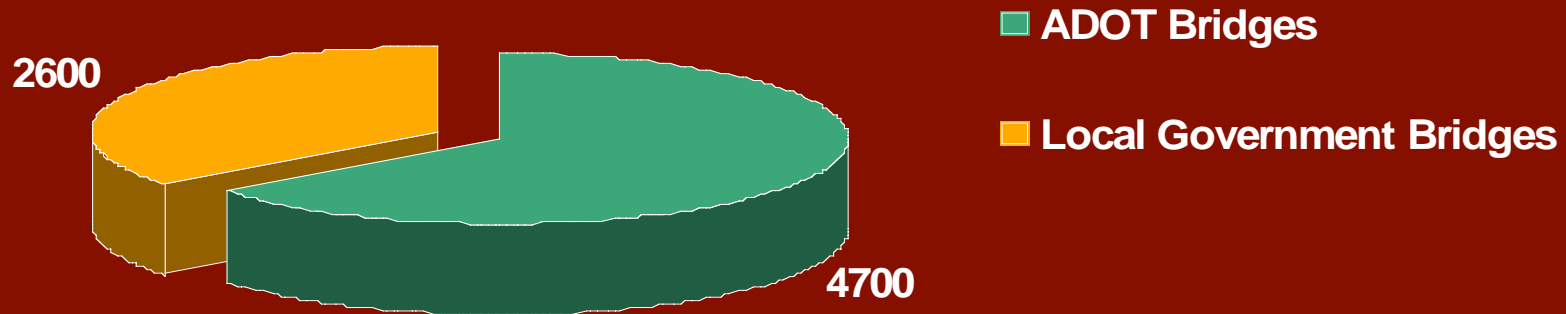


Local Government Bridge Inspection

Jean A. Nehme, Ph.D., P.E.
State Bridge Engineer
Arizona Department of Transportation



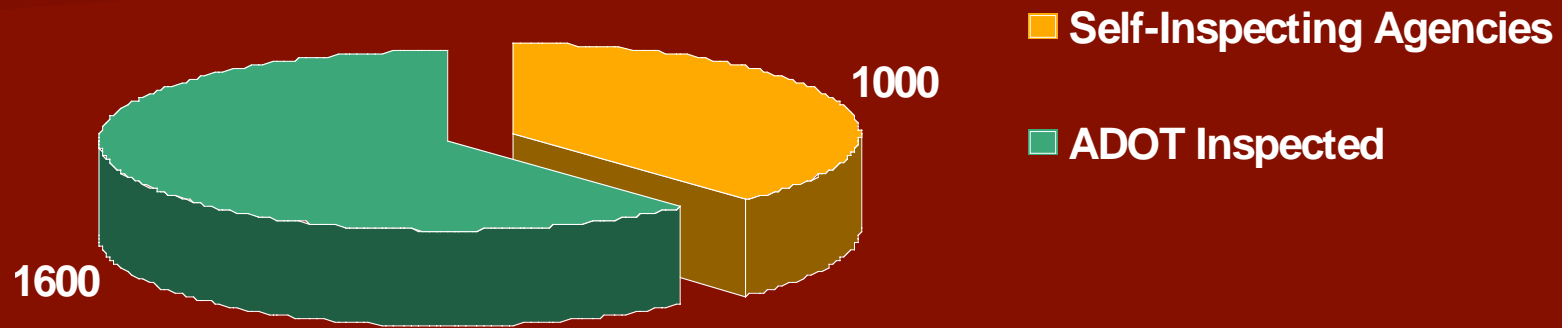
Arizona Bridges



Σ (Structure's Spans) > 20 ft → Bridge
Federal bridges not included



Local Government Bridges



Self-Inspecting Agencies:

Counties of Maricopa, Pima, Yuma, and Coconino
City of Phoenix

Non Self-Inspecting Agencies:

~ 80



National Bridge Inspection Standards

- Inspection frequency
- Personnel qualifications
- Reporting requirements
- National Bridge Inventory
- Other (load rating, scour POAs, ...)



Types of Bridge Inspections

- Routine Inspections





Types of Bridge Inspections

- In-Depth (Hands-On) Inspections





Types of Bridge Inspections

- Collision Damage Inspections





Types of Bridge Inspections

- Special Inspections (On Request)





Types of Bridge Inspections

- Under-Water Inspections





Inspection Procedure of Local Government Bridges...



Past/Current Inspection Procedure

- ADOT sends a letter to Local Agency
- ADOT sends a letter to Local Agency
- Local Agency replies
- ADOT opens account
- Untimely invoices
- Difficult to budget – actual cost



... continued

- ADOT closes account
- Lots of paperwork → Too many steps → Delinquent inspections
- No in-depth inspections performed by ADOT



Alternate Bridge Inspection Procedure

- Adds the option of using consultants
- No bridge inspection budgeting required
- No more invoices!
- Eliminate paperwork – ADOT would still have to notify bridge owners prior to performing the inspections



Federal Bridge Funding

- Adjusting the federal BR program split
- Federal regulations – min 15% for off-system bridges
- Historically – up to 35%



The end!