



# Memorandum

**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation

Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Notification of Audit of  
Oversight of Structurally Deficient Bridges,  
Federal Highway Administration  
Project Number: 03M3013M000

Date: October 31, 2003

From: Debra S. Ritt  
Assistant Inspector General  
for Surface and Maritime Programs

Reply to JA-40  
Attn of:

To: Federal Highway Administrator

The Office of Inspector General plans to conduct an audit of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) oversight of structurally deficient bridges on the National Highway System (NHS). The objectives of this audit are to evaluate whether (1) structurally deficient bridges on the NHS have been inspected in accordance with National Bridge Inspection Standards, and (2) FHWA's oversight is effective to address the deficiencies on these bridges. Specifically, we will evaluate whether FHWA provides adequate oversight to ensure state inspections are performed and recorded properly, and to monitor state plans and programs to address the structural deficiencies on these bridges.

We plan to start the audit the week of November 3, 2003, and will contact your audit liaison to schedule a formal entrance conference. We will conduct audit work at FHWA Headquarters and Division offices, and at selected state offices. The Program Director for this assignment is Michael Goldstein.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (202) 493-0331 or Michael Goldstein at (212) 264-8701.

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cc: Audit Liaison, FHWA

Audit Liaison, DOT/OST