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2024 NESMEA Conference



I-495 & I-90 Design Build Project



Project Team







EXISTING I-495 AND I-90 INTERCHANGE ALIGNMENT





PROPOSED I-495 AND I-90 INTERCHANGE ALIGNMENT





Project Goals



Reduce crashes in the project area for all movements



Reduce recurring congestion within the interchange



Reduce queuing that currently extends from the interchange onto the mainlines of I-90 and I-495



Reduce travel time the interchange, especially for high-volume movements



Key Project Elements and Proposed Modifications

- Project limits extend approximately 3/4 mile in each direction
- Complete replacement of the Interchange
- Elimination of old toll booth area and weaving areas
- Extremely sensitive environmental resource area

Project website:

https://www.mass.gov/i-495i-90-interchangeimprovements





I-90

- 3 lanes in each direction
- Minor widening and minimal changes to profile
- Bridges over MBTA/CSX/Amtrak and Whitehall Brook to be replaced



- 3 lanes in each direction
- 4th lane to Route 9
- Future I-495 NB will be within the previous median area
- Future I-495 SB will be in its existing location
- Bridges over MBTA/CSX/Amtrak and I-90 to be replaced







Interchange Ramps

- New direct, semi-direct and loop ramp configurations
- Support up to 40-50 mph design speed
- Single or two-lane ramps based on traffic demand

*Ramp Designations indicate directionality—i.e., **Ramp WN** connects I-90W to I-495N





Fruit Street

- Will be completed in 2 major stages
- 2-way, 1-lane alternating traffic (under signal control) during major stages

Flanders Road

- Replacement of I-495 NB bridge superstructure over Flanders Road
- Constructed with an overbuild to maintain 3-lanes of travel
- Utility work on Flanders Road below I-495





Environmental Considerations

Interchange is located near sensitive natural resources

- Cedar Swamp ACEC
- Sudbury River
- Whitehall Brook
- Surrounding wetlands and floodplains

Permits

- Issued during preliminary design
- Require continued agency involvement as designs advance
- Require construction and post-construction oversight





Traffic and Staging Considerations

I-90 and I-495

- Maintain 3 lanes on mainlines, except for short-term closures during approved off-peak hours
- Maintain all ramp connections between I-90 and I-495, including along temporary alignments
- Maintain proper signage and markings
- Provide temporary roadway lighting along ramps
- Provision of safe construction access/egress

Local Roadways

- Maintain resident and local business access/egress
- Traffic management to maintain access/egress on Fruit Street & Flanders Road







Schedule







Construction Material Project Highlights

- Project Structures
- Concrete Placements
- Concrete Mixes on the Project
- Material Challenges & Recommendations





Overview

- All bridges consist of concrete deck on steel girders
 - Ramp WN is composed of curved steel box girders
- Concrete substructures throughout the project (some staged construction)
- Abutments are mostly conventional cantilever abutments (some with H-piles)
- Two integral abutment bridges
- Piers are either multi-column style or hammerhead
- One hammerhead pier with a concrete integral pier cap









Mass Concrete on a Massive Project

- 500+ structural concrete pours
- 33 Pier Footing Pours
- 30 Abutment Footing Pours
- 34 Pier Column Pours
- 33 Pier Cap Pours
- 38 Integral Abutment Pours
- 49 Cantilever Abutment Pours
- 123 of these concrete pours are considered Mass Concrete





Mass Concrete Mix Designs

- Per 901.65, Section B, Section 1 MassDOT considers mass concrete to be any pour equal to or greater than 4ft x 4ft x 4ft
- Temperature differential between internal and external is limited to 38°F
- Maximum temperature limited to 154°F
- Thermal Control Plan is required and includes mix design, heat of hydration analysis, plan to meet the temperature limits, method of recording temperatures, and plan of corrective action

Material and Quantity (I b/cu yd)	Mass Concrete Mix
Cement (lbs/cu yd)	303
Slag (lbs/cu yd)	303
3/4 in. Stone (Ibs/cu yd)	500
1/2 in. Stone (Ibs/cu yd)	500
1-1/2 in. Stone (lbs/cu yd)	900
Sand (lbs/cu yd)	1,168
Water (gal/cu yd)	33.0
GCP ADVA 140M (oz/cu yd)	42.0
GCP Darex II AEA (oz/cu yd)	2.5



Mass Concrete Work Plan

Workplan	Allowable Mean Ambient Temperature Range	Work Plan	
1 – Warm Weather Placements	100° to 50°F	 Maximum concrete placement temperature is 80°F.¹ Immediately after the concrete placement, tightly cover and wrap the top surface with one laver of R1.5 insulation blankets, wrapping and securing the blankets against the top of the formwork to prevent wind from getting underneath the blankets. Remove all of the formwork after the embedded thermocouples indicate that thermal control measures can be stopped.^{2,3,4} 	
2 – Moderate Weather Placements	90° to 35°F	 Maximum concrete placement temperature is 75°F.¹ Immediately after the concrete placement, tightly cover and wrap the <u>top surface with one laver</u> <u>of R1.5 insulation blankets</u>, wrapping and securing the blankets against the formwork to prevent wind from getting underneath the blankets. Remove all of the covers and formwork after the embedded thermocouples indicate that thermal control measures can be stopped.^{2.3.4} 	
3 – Cool Weather Placements	70° to 15°F	 Maximum concrete placement temperature is 65°F.¹ Immediately after the concrete placement, tightly cover and wrap the <u>top and side surfaces with</u> <u>one laver of R1.5 insulation blankets</u>, wrapping and securing the blankets against the formwork to prevent wind from getting underneath the blankets. Remove all of the covers and formwork after the embedded thermocouples indicate that thermal control measures can be stopped.^{2.3.4} 	

¹ACI 306R-16 Guide to Cold Weather Concreting recommends a minimum concrete temperature as placed and maintained of 45°F for elements between 3 and 6 ft thick.

² During the first 48 hrs after placement, monitor the thermocouples at least twice a day. If the differential temperatures approach the limits discussed below in Section 4.3, place an additional layer of insulation blankets on the side and top surfaces.

³ The forms and any insulation should be stripped near the middle of the day. The cooling rate on the removal of insulation should also be kept below 30°F/day in the first 24 hrs after thermal protection is terminated, as specified in ACI 301.

⁴Refer to Section 4.2 for information on how to determine when thermal control measures can be stopped. Refer to Fig. 1 for an estimate of how long thermal control measures will be required for the selected work plan and ambient conditions.



Mass Concrete Temperature Monitoring





Material Challenges and Recommendations

- Mass Placements
- Cold Weather Concrete
- Concrete Consolidation
- High Performance Concrete Mix Design



Mass Placements

- Recommend early assessment of mass concrete pours on the project
 - Test block "hot box" takes time (28-day strength)
 - Development of thermal control plan for a new mix takes time
- Recommend early indication of mix performance for mass placements
- High Performance Concrete Mixes run hot (4000 psi conventional vs HP)
- Large aggregate (1-1/2") is a key element to developing low heat concrete mixes
- LRFD Bridge Design require more reinforcement in substructures (particularly pier caps and columns) presenting constructability challenges





Cold Weather Concrete

- Deck Placements in Cold Weather
 - Temperature control during placement
 - Pre-heat the forms for the deck
 - Ensure warm water temperature
 - Temperature control during curing
 - Maintaining heaters during construction
 - Laying out the heaters and hoses to optimize heating during curing
- Mass Placements in Cold Weather
 - Balancing the internal heat with the cold external temperatures
 - Maintaining the differential limit and the internal limit over the 3-day range





Concrete Consolidation

- LRFD Bridge Design Code results in significant reinforcement in pier caps and columns
- Typically pier column requires pumping
- Pumping within tight rebar spacing requires a reduced pump outlet
- Taller columns are more difficult to ensure effective pumping within tight rebar spacing
- Recommend ensuring that the pump and vibrators can fully access the range of the column when working with a tall pier column





High Performance Concrete Mixes

- New HP concrete mix specification after construction began
- Concrete producers needed to maintain production of the current 4000 psi HP mixes while beginning production of the new mixes
- Project was able to utilize the new 5000 psi HP mixes instead of old 5000 psi HP mixes

28 Day Compressive Strength	Nominal Maximum Coarse Aggregate Size (in.)	Maximum Total Cementitious Content (lb per yd³)
5,000 psi	3⁄4	685
5,000 psi	3/8	710
6,500 psi	3/8, 1/2, 3/4	
8,000 psi	3/8, 1/2, 3/4	

Table M4.06.1-1: Classifications of HP Concrete



Hopkinton-Westborough Interchange Improvements

Massachusetts Department of Transportation **Design-Build Proposal**

No. 607977-116673





EASTBOUND/WESTBOUND



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