

## **BIM Advisory Bulletin #4 Department Review of Local Road Bridge Inspections**

Under Section 18(1) of the Municipal Government Act in the Province of Alberta, a municipality has the direction, control and management of all local roads within the municipality. As such, municipalities are responsible for inspecting and maintaining all local road bridges within the municipality. Alberta Transportation completes inspections of major bridges on local roads, but the responsibility for managing and maintaining these bridges still lies with the municipality.

Many municipalities choose to use Alberta Transportation's Bridge Information System (BIS) tool to store and manage bridge inspection data that is collected in accordance with Alberta Transportation's Bridge Inspection and Maintenance (BIM) System. Currently, the name of an approved Alberta Transportation representative must be entered as the Department Reviewer before any BIM report will be accepted into BIS, and this has led to confusion over the level of responsibility assumed by the Department Reviewer. In the case of bridges under the direction, control and management of a municipality, the Department Reviewer's only responsibility is to check that the report can be acceptably entered into the system, and the Department Reviewer takes no responsibility for the content or accuracy of the report. The municipality is responsible for ensuring the completeness and accuracy of inspection reports for its bridges, regardless of who completes the inspections, and is also responsible for ensuring that all comments or recommendations contained in the reports are addressed. In the future, Alberta Transportation hopes to review the need to complete the Department Reviewer field on reports for local road bridges. In the meantime, this advisory bulletin shall clarify the roles and responsibilities of the individual noted as Department Reviewer on local road bridge inspection reports.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the undersigned.



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