

Rapid Bridge Replacement Project Pennsylvania

Replacement of 558 structurally deficient bridges in 3 years under a single design, build, finance, maintain P3 contract across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Size/Dollar Value: \$1 Billion

Issue Addressed: The Commonwealth has for many years - largely due to diminishing revenues for its capital program - struggled to adequately address its aging bridges with as many as 6,000 at one point being classified as structurally deficient, that is, in need of repair or replacement. The average age of the bridges in Penn DOT's bridge inventory is well over 50 years old, which has led to many of them being weight restricted to preserve their useful life or buy time until funding becomes available to rehab or replace them.

Procurement method: Design, Build, Finance and Maintain P3.

The innovation or success:

Bundling of 558 similar structures led to significant economies of scale savings in a variety of ways, from streamlining design and permitting processes to large scale prefabrication and bulk purchasing of materials. The accelerated delivery also allowed the Commonwealth to take advantage of current construction costs and avoid the high costs of deferred maintenance and the impacts of inflation at a time when interest rates were at record lows. OM&R during construction and transition planning for handover through OM&R involvement during the DB period.

