Background:

The Maine Department of Transportation has adopted a Highway Corridor Priority approach to classifying the roadway network. Priority 1 roads for example, are made up of the Interstate system and key Principal Arterials. Guidance is needed in order to apply the appropriate amount of flexibility when determining travel lane and shoulder widths for any given project.

Applicability:

This policy applies to all roadway and bridge projects. While the policy should allow for consideration of curbed sections, guardrail sections, and bridge approaches, the Design Exception process may be utilized if additional width is warranted. Due consideration to the existing corridor is expected when determining widths.

Policy:

For Priority 1 & 2 Corridors:

- Travel lanes  full depth pavement for 12’, striping 11’ to 12’
- Shoulders  4’ to 10’
- Bridge width should equal full roadway width

For Priority 3, 4 Corridors:

- Travel lanes  10’ to 12’
- Shoulders  2’ to 6’
- Bridge width minimum is 24’, strive for full roadway width

For Priority 6 Corridors and very low volume roadways (< 400 ADT)

- Travel lanes  10’ to 12’
- Shoulders  0’ to 4’
- Bridge width consider one lane 14’ curb to curb if appropriate, strive for full roadway width

Responsibility:

Bureau Directors