

Press Release

(Fairfield, Maine)

The Western Avenue Bridge over Interstate 95 in Fairfield, Maine, is a busy interchange structure serving multiple communities, nearby businesses and schools, a popular truck stop and thousands of vehicles daily. After scheduling this bridge for rehabilitation, the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) recognized the importance of completing the proposed deck replacement work quickly and with minimal disruption to the traveling public.

As the design consultant for MaineDOT, HNTB Corporation helped the client leverage innovative materials and new techniques in accelerated bridge construction to complete the proposed deck replacement in a fraction of the time normally required. The project construction approach was developed to allow a large portion of the work to be completed without significant travel restrictions across the bridge. After completing a significant amount of construction in advance of the deck replacement, the bridge was limited to a single lane of alternating signalized traffic and work began to replace the aging concrete bridge deck. The project team used precast concrete deck panels and ultra-high performance concrete, a state-of-the-art concrete materials, to completely replace the bridge deck while requiring only 52 days of signalized traffic on Western Avenue, a full 78 days faster than would typically be required using conventional construction materials and methods.

“The successful use of full-depth precast concrete deck panels with ultra-high performance concrete joints allowed this bridge deck replacement to proceed on a heavily accelerated schedule, significantly minimizing impacts to the traveling public and the surrounding community. That was a major goal for MaineDOT who not only wanted a well-built project, but one that could be built with as little disruption to traffic and the community as practical” said HNTB Project manager, Tim Cote.

Press Release

Construction of the \$2 million project was substantially completed in the fall of 2016. Based on the successful outcome of the project, and positive feedback from members of the community, MaineDOT is exploring additional projects that could benefit from a similar innovative construction solutions.

HNTB is an infrastructure solutions firm with more than 3,800 employees serving public and private owners and contractors, delivering a wide range of services including planning, design, program and construction management.