



South Carolina  
Department of Transportation

## **BRIDGE DESIGN MEMORANDUM – DM0223**

**TO:** RPG Structural Engineers  
Alternative Delivery Structural Design Engineer  
Design Consultants

**Date:** August 30, 2023

**RE:** Galvanized Reinforcing Steel Lengths

**Apply these requirements to all projects where design has not advanced beyond preliminary plans submittal.**

Feedback provided by both the hot dipped galvanizing industry and the continuous galvanizing industry has indicated that restricting reinforcing steel bar lengths to a 40 ft maximum is no longer required. Therefore, the maximum galvanized reinforcing steel bar length is being revised to 60 ft.

Make the following revisions in the *Bridge Design Manual*:

**Delete the three bullets of Item 4 in Section 6.3.11.5 and replace with the following:**

- black (uncoated) reinforcing bars, other than #3 and #4 bars, is 60 ft;
- galvanized reinforcing bars, other than #3 and #4 bars, is 60 ft; and
- #3 and #4 bars, black (uncoated) and galvanized is 30 ft.

**Delete the paragraph in Section 15.3.1.4 and replace with the following:**

The maximum length for reinforcing bars are as follows:

- black (uncoated) reinforcing bars, other than #3 and #4 bars, is 60 ft;
- galvanized reinforcing bars, other than #3 and #4 bars, is 60 ft; and
- #3 and #4 bars, black (uncoated) and galvanized is 30 ft.



**Delete Item 8 in Section 17.3.1, and replace with the following:**

8. Length of Reinforcement Steel. The maximum length of reinforcing steel in the deck shall be 60 ft for galvanized and black (uncoated) reinforcing bars.

**Please note the changes above in your copy of the SCDOT Bridge Design Manual.**

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Structural Design Support Engineer

TBK:hl

ec:

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