

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority**

Public Notice of Proposed Rule-Making

Pursuant to the provisions of sections 24-12-5 and 31-12-12 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (the "Authority") hereby gives notice of its intent to amend its *Regulations Governing the Use of the Claiborne Pell Bridge*.

The purpose of this amendment is to revise the rules and regulations governing the use of the Claiborne Pell Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge.

The proposed rules and regulations, and concise summary of non-technical amendments between existing and proposed new rules are available for public inspection at www.sos.ri.gov/ProposedRules/, in person at the Administrative office of the Authority located at One East Shore Road, Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835, on the Authority's website at www.ritba.org, or by contacting Jo-Ann Head at (401) 423-0800 or jhead@ritba.org.

In the development of the proposed amendment, consideration was given to (1) alternative approaches, (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions, and (3) significant impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication or overlap was identified based upon available information.

All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed rules and regulations by Wednesday, January 9, 2011 to Jo-Ann Head, Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority, One East Shore Road, Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835, (401) 423-0800, or jhead@ritba.org.

In accordance with section 42-35-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, a public hearing will be held if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by an agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for a public hearing must be made within thirty (30) days of this notice.

Earl J. Croft III, Executive Director
Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority**

Concise Summary of Non-Technical Amendments

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 42-35-3(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, the following is a concise summary of the proposed non-technical amendments:

- 1) Title: The title of the rules and regulations was changed to include the Mount Hope Bridge.
- 2) Section references and headings were updated throughout the document and the Table of Contents was updated to reflect new additions and new sections and headings.
- 3) Defined words were updated throughout the document so that the certain defined terms are now capitalized throughout the document.
- 4) Section 1.1: The authorization clause was updated to include the Mount Hope Bridge, to state that the rules and regulations will be enforced by the Authority's Executive Director and to update the references for authorization of the rules and regulations in the Rhode Island General Laws.
- 5) Section 1.2: A purpose clause was added to explain the purpose of the rules and regulations and where copies of the documents can be obtained.
- 6) Section 1.3: The penalties section was updated to update the references to the Rhode Island General Laws and the fine amount.
- 7) Section 2: The definitions section was moved from Part 1 to a separate section. All references to the existing and new defined terms were updated throughout the document.
- 8) Section 2.1: A definition for the Authority's Administrative Office was added to provide contact information for the Authority's headquarters.
- 9) Section 2.3: A definition for Bridges was included to reference the Claiborne Pell Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge throughout the document.
- 10) Section 2.4: The definition for the Claiborne Pell Bridge was updated and the reference to a general plan for the bridge was removed.
- 11) Section 2.5: A definition for Emergency Personnel was added and a definition for Police was removed to encompass other emergency personnel throughout the regulations.
- 12) Section 2.6: The definition of Employee was changes from "Authority Employee."

- 13) Section 2.7: A definition for Executive Director was added for the person in charge of day-to-day operations of the Authority and the enforcement of the regulations.
- 14) Section 2.8: A definition for E-ZPass System was added to reference the Authority's use of E-ZPass as a toll collection method at the Claiborne Pell Bridge.
- 15) Section 2.9: A definition for E-ZPass Transponders was added in connection with the Authority's use of the E-ZPass System.
- 16) Section 2.10: A definition for Hazardous Materials was added to define Hazardous Materials in connection the transportation of Hazardous Material over the Claiborne Pell Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge.
- 17) Section 2.11: A definition for Motor Vehicles Law was added to reference Title 31 of the Rhode Island General Laws and the laws which are of general applicability to motor vehicle operators using the Bridges and roadways in the State.
- 18) Section 2.12: A definition for Mount Hope Bridge was added as a result of the regulations being updated to include the Mount Hope Bridge.
- 19) Section 2.13: A definition for the State of Rhode Island was added.
- 20) Section 2.14: A definition for Toll Plazas was added to references the facilities were tolls are collected.
- 21) Section 2.15: The definition for Vehicle was revised to be in line with the definition of Vehicle in the Motor Vehicles Law.
- 22) Section 3: Speed limit and vehicle operation regulations formerly contained in Part II were moved to Section 3. Except as otherwise noted, the subsections were modified to apply to both Bridges.
- 23) Section 3.1.2: A section regarding the speed limits on the Mount Hope Bridge was added as a result of the difference in speed limits on the two Bridges.
- 24) Section 3.7: A section regarding compression braking was added to address the increased noise problem in connection with semi-trucks using compression breaking in and around the bridge areas as a method of braking.
- 25) Section 3.10: In addition to updates to defined terms, the last sentence was added as a safety issue to direct motor vehicle operators to call the Administrative Office and remain in their Vehicles until otherwise directed.
- 26) Section 3.11: In addition to updates to defined terms, a sentence was added as a safety issue to direct motor vehicle operators to call the Administrative Office and remain in their Vehicles until otherwise directed.

- 27) Section 3.13: The exemption for the Rhode Island State Police and other personnel using the bridge has been extended to all emergency personnel using the Bridges in their official capacity.
- 28) The civil defense regulations, formerly contained in Section 2.10, have been stricken.
- 29) Section 4: The Regulations addressing prohibited traffic have been moved from Article 3 of Part II to a new Section 4. Except as otherwise noted, the subsections were modified to apply to both Bridges.
- 30) Section 4.1: The prohibition against pedestrians on the Bridges was modified to allow pedestrians in emergency situations in certain designated areas, and the last sentence referencing use of emergency telephones located on the Bridges was stricken.
- 31) Section 4.3(b): This section was updated to clarify that bicycles are permitted on the Mount Hope Bridge.
- 32) Section 4.3(b): The total gross weight for Vehicles using the Bridges was updated to 80,000 pounds, from 72,000 pounds.
- 33) Section 4.3(h): This section was further clarified to apply to passenger Vehicles.
- 34) Section 4.3(j): This section was added to address a safety issue on the Bridge for those vehicles that require a lift axle to be lowered when crossing a bridge, but otherwise do not lower it, to distribute weight of cargo evenly.
- 35) The language, formerly subsection “m”, prohibiting vehicles performing emergency or repair services from using the Bridges unless under special permit or contract of the Authority has been stricken.
- 36) Section 4.3.2: This section was formerly Section 5.3(a).
- 37) Section 4.5: The section on the transportation of dangerous articles was updated to include Hazardous Materials as defined throughout various federal and state laws and regulations. The transportation of Hazardous Materials imposes important safety concerns which need to be addressed by the Authority. The regulations reference rules and regulations for the transportation of Hazardous Materials over the Bridges, which the Authority may implement at a later date.
- 38) Section 5 was added to the regulations to address emergency travel restrictions and bridge closures. Section 5.1 addresses travel restrictions for certain vehicles and bridge closures in the event of extreme weather conditions. Section 5.2 addresses emergency travel restrictions and bridge closures for emergencies and public safety reasons.

- 39) Section 6: This section on general bridge regulations was formerly Article 4 of Part II. Except as otherwise noted, the subsections were modified to apply to both Bridges.
- 40) Section 7: This section was moved from Article 5 of Part II and was updated to address the new toll structure on the Claiborne Pell Bridge. Except as otherwise noted, the subsections were modified to apply to both Bridges.
- 41) Section 7.1: This section addresses the payment of tolls on the Claiborne Pell Bridge and clarifies that no toll is currently collected on the Mount Hope Bridge.
- 42) Section 7.2: This section was added to address the E-ZPass toll collection system on the Claiborne Pell Bridge. The section directs motor vehicle operators to the Authority's website for more information about E-ZPass. In addition, the Authority's toll schedule has been removed from the regulations. The toll schedule can now be accessed by visiting the Authority's website.
- 43) Section 7.3: This section has been modified to allow toll-free passage to Employees of the Authority while conducting Authority business, Rhode Island State Police and other Emergency Personnel, and other Vehicles in the performance of Authority business.
- 44) Section 7.5: The section addressing nonpayment of tolls was modified to address the new schedule for nonpayment of tolls and references the Authority's new *Rules and Regulations Governing the Nonpayment of Tolls*.
- 45) Part III of the old regulations, which addressed the recommendations and explanations of the regulations, was deleted in its entirety because it was duplicative with the other parts of the regulations.
- 46) Appendix A: This appendix addressing ice and snow removal procedures was formerly Appendix B. The former Appendix A was deleted, which was an illustration of the Claiborne Pell Bridge span. The Appendix was modified to apply to both Bridges. A new step was added in the event of ice and snow which requires the Authority to monitor the weather sensor system for heightened concerns. In addition, the section addressing sources of information was updated to include monitoring of weather sensors, inspections by Authority maintenance and operations personnel, and the travelling public.

RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY

JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND



**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE
OF THE CLAIBORNE PELL BRIDGE**

AND

MOUNT HOPE BRIDGE

April 2002

As amended:

Proposed December 2010

Prepared by:

Parsons Brinkerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

INTRODUCTION

PART I. SECTION 1 - AUTHORIZATION, PURPOSE AND PENALTIES AND DEFINITIONS

<u>1.1</u>	<u>Authorization</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>1.2</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>1.3</u>	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>Definitions</u>	
	
	
	<u>1</u>

SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS..... 2

<u>2.1</u>	<u>Administrative Office</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.2</u>	<u>Authority</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.3</u>	<u>Bridges</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.4</u>	<u>Claiborne Pell Bridge</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.5</u>	<u>Emergency Personnel</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.6</u>	<u>Employee(s)</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.7</u>	<u>Executive Director</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2.8</u>	<u>E-ZPass System</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.9</u>	<u>E-ZPass Transponders</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.10</u>	<u>Hazardous material</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.11</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles Laws</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.12</u>	<u>Mount Hope Bridge</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.13</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>2.14</u>	<u>Toll Plazas</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>2.15</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>4</u>

SECTION 3 – ROADWAY AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS..... 7

<u>3.1</u>	<u>Speed Limits</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>3.2</u>	<u>Obedience to Signs and Signals</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>3.3</u>	<u>Uniform Direction of Traffic</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.4</u>	<u>Slow-Moving Vehicles</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.5</u>	<u>U-Turns</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.6</u>	<u>Coasting</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.7</u>	<u>Compression Braking</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.8</u>	<u>Distance between Moving Vehicles</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.9</u>	<u>Entry to and Exit from the Bridges</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3.10</u>	<u>Parking, Standing or Stopping of Vehicles</u>	<u>8</u>

3.11	Vehicle Repairs and Tire Changing.....	9
3.12	Compliance with State Motor -Vehicles Laws	9
3.13	Emergency Personnel and Employee Exceptions.....	9

PART II. REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 1.	SPEED LIMITS	
1.1	Maximum Speed Limits	2
ARTICLE 2.	OPERATION OF VEHICLES	
2.1	Obedience to Signs and Signals	3
2.2	Uniform Direction of Traffic	3
2.3	Slow-moving Vehicles	3
2.4	U-Turns	3
2.5	Coasting	3
2.6	Distance Between Moving Vehicles	3
2.7	Entry to and Exit from the Bridge	3
2.8	Parking, Standing, or Stopping of Vehicles	4
2.9	Vehicle Repairing and Tire Changing	4
2.10	Civil Defense Regulations	4
2.11	Compliance with State Motor Vehicle Laws	4
ARTICLE 3.	RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF THE BRIDGE	
3.1	Pedestrians	5
3.2	Animals	5
3.3	Restricted Vehicles	5
3.4	Permits	7
3.5	Transportation of Dangerous Articles	7
ARTICLE 4.	GENERAL REGULATIONS	
4.1	Waste and Rubbish	7
4.2	Damage to Property	7
4.3	Advertising Devices and Posters	8
4.4	Hitchhiking and Loitering	8
ARTICLE 5.	TOLLS	
5.1	Payment of Tolls	8
5.2	Prepaid Tokens	9
5.3	Toll-Free Passage	9
5.4	Funeral Processions and Convoys	10

SECTION 4 – PROHIBITED TRAFFIC 9

4.1	Pedestrians.....	9
4.2	Animals.....	9

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(continued)

Page

~~CONTENTS (continued)~~

4.3	Restricted Vehicles	10
4.4	Special Use Permits	11
4.5	Transportation of Dangerous Articles and Hazardous Materials.....	11

~~PART III. RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXPLANATION
OF REGULATIONS~~

—	Authorization for the Regulations		11
—	Penalties		12
	ARTICLE 1. SPEED LIMITS		
	1.1 Maximum Speed Limits	13	
	ARTICLE 2. OPERATION OF VEHICLE		
	2.1 Obedience to Signs and Signals	13	
	2.2 Uniform Direction of Traffic		14
	2.3 Slow-moving Vehicles	14	
	2.4 U-Turns		15
	2.5 Coasting		15
	2.6 Distance Between Moving Vehicles		16
	2.7 Entry to and Exit from the Bridge		16
	2.8 Parking, Standing, or Stopping of Vehicles		17
	2.9 Vehicle Repairing and Tire Changing	17	
	2.10 Civil Defense Regulations		17
	2.11 Compliance with State Motor Vehicle Laws		17
	ARTICLE 3. RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF THE BRIDGE		
	3.1 Pedestrians		18
	3.2 Animals		18
	3.3 Restricted Vehicles		18
	3.4 Permits	23	
	3.5 Transportation of Dangerous Articles		23
	ARTICLE 4. GENERAL REGULATIONS		
	4.1 Waste and Rubbish		23
	4.2 Damage to Property		23
	4.3 Advertising Devices and Posters		24
	4.4 Hitchhiking and Loitering		24
	ARTICLE 5. TOLLS		
	5.1 Payment of Tolls		24
	5.2 Prepaid Tokens		24
	5.3 Toll-Free Passage		25
	5.4 Funeral Processions and Convoys		25

SECTION 5 – TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND BRIDGE CLOSURES 12

5.1 Extreme Weather Conditions 12
5.2 Emergency Travel Restrictions 12

SECTION 6 – GENERAL REGULATIONS 12

6.1 Waste and Rubbish 12
6.2 Damage to Property 12
6.3 Advertising Devices and Posters 13
6.4 Hitchhiking and Loitering 13

SECTION 7 – TOLLS 13

7.1 Payment of Tolls 13
7.2 E-Zpass Transponders 13
7.3 Toll-Free Passage 13
7.4 Funeral Processions and Convoys 14
7.5 Nonpayment of Tolls 14

CONTENTS (continued)

APPENDICES

Appendix "A"

General Plan – Claiborne Pell Bridge 26

Appendix "B" – "A" – Ice and Snow Plan for the Claiborne Pell Bridge

27

RHODE ISLAND TURNPIKE AND BRIDGE AUTHORITY

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE
CLAIBORNE PELL BRIDGE REGULATIONS AND MOUNT HOPE BRIDGE**

**PART I. SECTION 1 – AUTHORIZATION, PURPOSE AND PENALTIES AND
DEFINITIONS**

1.1 Authorization for Regulations

The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority was created and exists under and by virtue of Chapter 12, Title 24 of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, and amended by Chapter 219 of the Public Laws of 1960, Chapter 210 of the Public Laws of 1962, Chapter 165 of the Public Laws of 1963, Chapter 43 of the Public Laws of 1965, Chapter 228 of the Public Laws of 1966, and Chapter 83 of the Public Laws of 1967, and is authorized and empowered to construct, maintain, repair and operate the Claiborne Pell Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge.

AsIn conjunction with R.I.G.L. § 24-12-5, and as a duly empowered local authority within the purview of ~~Section R.I.G.L. § 31-12-12 of the Motor Vehieles Laws, 12,~~ the Authority has the power to establish rules and regulations for the use of the ~~Bridge~~Bridges. The enforcement of such rules and regulations is overseen by the Executive Director of the Authority.

1.2 Purpose

These Rules and Regulations are intended to provide patrons with information regarding the use, regulation and tolling of the Bridges. Official copies of these Rules and Regulations are on file at the Authority’s Administrative Office and with the Rhode Island Secretary of State. A copy of these Rules and Regulations is also available online on the Authority’s website at www.ritba.org.

These Rules and Regulations are effective immediately and supersede any previous regulations established by the Authority on the subject previously.

These Rules and Regulations apply to the Claiborne Pell Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge.

If any clause, provision, sentence, paragraph or section of these Rules and Regulations is found by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, the remainder of these Rules and Regulations shall nonetheless remain enforceable and in effect.

1.3 Penalties

Under the provisions of ~~Section R.I.G.L. § 31-27-13 of the Motor Vehiele Laws, 13,~~

violators of any of the regulations herein established shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ~~\$500, five hundred (\$500.00) dollars,~~ imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or both fine and imprisonment, unless other penalties are specifically provided.

Definitions

SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS

The following words and terms in these regulations have the following meanings unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning or intent.

2.1 Administrative Office

The Authority's administrative building is located in Jamestown, Rhode Island. The telephone number to the Administrative Office is (401) 423-0800.

2.2 Authority

The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority, created by the act constituting Chapter 12 of Title 24 of the Rhode Island General Laws of ~~1956~~1956, as amended.

2.3 Bridges

The Claiborne Pell Bridge and the Mount Hope Bridge.

2.4 Claiborne Pell Bridge ~~or Bridge~~

The ~~Bridge~~bridge crossing of the East Passage of ~~Narrangansett~~Narragansett Bay, extending between the east abutment of the ~~Bridge~~bridge and a point about seven hundred (700) feet west of the toll booths, and including the ~~Bridge~~bridge structure from abutment to abutment, the toll plaza, the westerly approach roadway, and the administration building and surrounding area. ~~A general plan of the Claiborne Pell Bridge is~~

2.5 Emergency Personnel

~~presented at the end of this report. Any federal, state, municipal or local officer including, but not limited to police, fire, security or other emergency personnel, acting in an official capacity on -or in the vicinity of the Bridges, any approaches to the Bridges or the space occupied by the Bridge spans.~~

2.6 Authority Employee ~~or Employee(s)~~

Any person(s) in the official employ of the Authority.

2.7 Executive Director

The person appointed by the Board of Directors of the Authority to oversee the day-to-day activities and Employees of the Authority.

2.8 E-ZPass System

An electronic toll collection system operated, maintained, and regulated by the Authority, which is a member agency of the E-Zpass Interagency Group (IAG). The system works with E-Zpass Transponders.

2.9 E-ZPass Transponders

The E-Zpass Transponders (Transponders) are transponders that communicate with reader equipment built into lane-based road toll collection lanes. The Transponders are issued by the Authority as a member agency of the IAG and can be used throughout the IAG network and other out-of-state authority's tolling systems.

2.10 Hazardous material

As defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation 49 U.S.C. § 105.5(b)(3) to mean a substance or material that the Secretary of Transportation has determined is capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce, and has designated as hazardous under Section 5103 of Federal hazardous materials transportation law (49 U.S.C. § 5103). The term includes hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, marine pollutants, elevated temperature materials, materials designated as hazardous in the Hazardous Materials Table (see 49 CFR § 172.101), and materials that meet the defining criteria for hazard classes and divisions in part 173 of subchapter C of the chapter.

2.11 Motor Vehicles Laws

The motor vehicles laws of the State promulgated under Title 31 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

2.12 Mount Hope Bridge

Mount Hope Bridge means the existing bridge between the towns of Bristol and Portsmouth, Rhode Island and the approaches thereto, which was constructed by the Mount Hope Bridge corporation and which was acquired and is now owned and operated by the Authority and shall embrace all tollhouses, administration, and other buildings and structures used in connection therewith, together with all property, rights, easements, and interests acquired by the Authority in connection with the construction and operation of the bridge.

2.13 State

The State of Rhode Island.

Police

2.14 Toll Plazas

Any of all officers of the State Police acting in an official capacity on the Bridge.
The buildings and facilities designated and maintained by the Authority for the purpose
of collecting tolls at the Bridges.

2.15 Vehicle

In accordance with R.I.G.L. § 31-1-3, vehicles are defined as follows:

(a) "Antique motor car" means any motor vehicle which is more than twenty-five (25) years old. Unless fully inspected and meeting inspection requirements, the vehicle may be maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest and may not be used primarily for the transportation of passengers or goods over any public highway;

(b) "Antique motorcycle" means any motorcycle which is more than twenty-five (25) years old. Unless fully inspected and meeting inspection requirements, the vehicle shall be maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest and may not be used primarily for the transportation of passengers or goods over any public highway;

(c) "Authorized emergency vehicle" means vehicles of the fire department (fire patrol), police vehicles, vehicles used by Rhode Island state marshals in the department of corrections, vehicles used by the state bomb squad within the division of state fire marshal, vehicles of municipal departments or public service corporations designated or authorized by the administrator as ambulances and emergency vehicles; and privately owned motor vehicles of volunteer firefighters or privately owned motor vehicles of volunteer ambulance drivers or attendants, as authorized by the department chief or commander and permitted by the Rhode Island association of fire chiefs and Rhode Island association of police chiefs joint committee for volunteer warning light permits.

(d) "Automobile" means, for registration purposes, every motor vehicle carrying passengers other than for hire.

(e) "Bicycle" means every vehicle having two (2) tandem wheels, except scooters and similar devices, propelled exclusively by human power, and upon which a person may ride.

(f) "Electric motorized bicycles" means a motorized bicycle which may be propelled by human power or electric motor power, or by both, with an electric motor rated not more than two

(2) (S.A.E.) horsepower, which is capable of a maximum speed of not more than twenty-five (25) miles per hour.

(g) "Electric personal assistive mobility device" ("EPAMD") is a self-balancing two (2) non-tandem wheeled device, designed to transport only one person, with an electric propulsion system which limits the maximum speed of the device to fifteen (15) miles per hour.

(h) "Hearse" means every motor vehicle used for transporting human corpses. A hearse shall be considered an automobile for registration purposes.

(i) "Jitney or bus" means: (1) a "public bus" which includes every motor vehicle, trailer, semi-trailer, tractor trailer, or tractor trailer combination, used for the transportation of passengers for hire, and operated wholly or in part upon any street or highway as a means of transportation similar to that afforded by a street railway company, by indiscriminately receiving or discharging passengers, or running on a regular route or over any portion of one, or between fixed termini; or (2) a "private bus" which includes every motor vehicle other than a public bus or passenger van designed for carrying more than ten (10) passengers and used for the transportation of persons, and every motor vehicle other than a taxicab designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

(j) "Motorcycle" means only those motor vehicles having not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground and a saddle on which the driver sits astride, except bicycles with helper motors as defined in subsection (1) of this section.

(k) "Motor-driven cycle" means every motorcycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor of no greater than five (5) horsepower, except bicycles with helper motors as defined in subsection (1) of this section.

(l) "Motorized bicycles" means two (2) wheel vehicles which may be propelled by human power or helper power, or by both, with a motor rated not more than four and nine-tenths (4.9) horsepower and not greater than fifty (50) cubic centimeters, which are capable of a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) miles per hour.

(m) "Motorized tricycles" means tricycles which may be propelled by human power or helper motor, or by both, with a motor rated no more than 1.5 brake horsepower which is capable of a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) miles per hour.

(n) "Motorized wheelchair" means any self-propelled vehicle, designed for and used by a person with a disability, that is incapable of speed in excess of eight (8) miles per hour.

(o) "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle which is self-propelled or propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated upon rails, except vehicles moved exclusively by human power, an EPAMD and electric motorized bicycles as defined in subsection (f) of this section, and motorized wheelchairs.

(p) "Motor vehicle for hire" means every motor vehicle other than jitneys, public buses, hearses, and motor vehicles used chiefly in connection with the conduct of funerals, to transport persons for compensation in any form, or motor vehicles rented for transporting persons either with or without furnishing an operator.

(q) "Passenger van" means every motor vehicle capable of carrying ten (10) to fourteen (14) passengers plus an operator and used for personal use or on a not-for-hire basis. Passenger vans may be used for vanpools, transporting passengers to and from work locations, provided that the operator receives no remuneration other than free use of the vehicle.

(r) "Pedal carriages" (also known as "quadricycles") means a non-motorized bicycle with four (4) or more wheels operated by one or more persons for the purpose of, or capable of, transporting additional passengers in seats or on a platform made a part of or otherwise attached to the pedal carriage. The term shall not include a bicycle with trainer or beginner wheels affixed to it, nor shall it include a wheelchair or other vehicle with the purpose of operation by or for the transportation of a handicapped person, nor shall it include a tricycle built for a child or an adult with a seat for only one operator and no passenger.

(s) "Rickshaws" (also known as "Pedi cabs") means a non-motorized bicycle with three (3) wheels operated by one person for the purpose of, or capable of, transporting additional passengers in seats or on a platform made a part of or otherwise attached to the rickshaw. This definition shall not include a bicycle built for two (2) where the operators are seated one behind the other, nor shall it include the operation of a bicycle with trainer or beginner wheels affixed thereto, nor shall it include a wheelchair or other vehicle with the purpose of operation by or for the transportation of a handicapped person.

(t) "School bus" means every motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency, when operated for the transportation of children to or from school; or privately owned, when operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school.

(u) "Suburban vehicle" means every motor vehicle with a convertible or interchangeable body or with removable seats, usable for both passenger and delivery purposes, and including motor vehicles commonly known as station or depot wagons or any vehicle into which access can be gained through the rear by means of a hatch or trunk and where the rear seats can be folded down to permit the carrying of articles as well as passengers.

(v) "Trackless trolley coach" means every motor vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated on rails.

(w) "Camping recreational vehicle" means a vehicular type camping unit, certified by the manufacturer as complying with ANSI A119.2 Standards designed primarily as temporary living quarters for recreation that has either its own motive power or is mounted on or towed by another vehicle. The basic units are tent trailers, fifth wheel trailers, motorized campers, travel trailers, and pick-up campers.

Every (x) "Vehicle" means every device in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon ~~the Bridge~~, a highway, except devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.-

(y) "Tent trailer" means a towable recreational vehicle that is mounted on wheels and constructed with collapsible partial side walls that fold for towing by another vehicle and unfold for use and which is eligible to be registered for highway use.

(z) "Fifth wheel trailer" means a towable recreational vehicle, not exceeding four hundred (400) square feet in area, designed to be towed by a motorized vehicle that contains a towing mechanism that is mounted above or forward of the tow vehicle's rear axle and which is eligible to be registered for highway use.

(aa) "Motorized camper" means a camping recreational vehicle built on or permanently attached to a self-propelled motor vehicle chassis cab or van that is an integral part of the completed vehicle.

(bb) "Travel trailer" means a towable recreational vehicle, not exceeding three hundred twenty (320) square feet in area, designed to be towed by a motorized vehicle containing a towing mechanism that is mounted behind the tow vehicle's bumper and which is eligible to be registered for highway use.

(cc) "Pick-up camper" means a camping recreational vehicle consisting of a roof, floor, and sides designed to be loaded onto and unloaded from the back of a pick-up truck.

(dd) "Park trailer" means a camping recreational vehicle that is eligible to be registered for highway use and meets the following criteria: (i) built on a single chassis mounted on wheels; and (ii) certified by the manufacturer as complying with ANSI A119.5.

(ee) "Motor scooter" means a motor-driven cycle with a motor rated not more than four and nine-tenths (4.9) horsepower and not greater than fifty (50) cubic centimeters, which is capable of a maximum speed of not more than thirty (30) miles per hour.

PART II. SECTION 3 – ROADWAY AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 1. SPEED LIMITS

1.1 — Maximum speed 3.1 Speed Limits

3.1.1. *Claiborne Pell Bridge* - Except where otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit on the Claiborne Pell Bridge is forty (40) miles per hour, and no ~~vehicle~~Vehicle shall be driven in excess of this limit.

3.1.2 *Mount Hope Bridge* – Except where otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit on the Mount Hope Bridge is thirty (30) miles per hour and no Vehicle shall be driven in excess of this limit.

3.1.3 *General Provisions* - During periods of inclement weather or when other hazards exist on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges, lower speed limits may be put into effect. Such lower speed limits will be posted at the ~~toll plaza~~Toll Plazas and at various locations along the ~~Bridge~~Bridges and approaches.

Irrespective of the maximum speed limits herein provided, no person shall drive a ~~vehicle~~Vehicle on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges recklessly or in a manner so as to endanger life, limb, or property.

~~ARTICLE 2. OPERATION OF VEHICLES~~

~~2.13.2~~ Obedience to Signs and Signals

All persons operating ~~vehieles~~Vehicles upon the ~~Bridge~~Bridges at all times must comply with any lawful order, signal, or direction by voice or hand of any ~~police officer or Bridge employee~~Emergency Personnel or Employee engaged in the direction of traffic on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges. All persons similarly must comply with any traffic control sign, signal, or device erected or displayed by the Authority, unless otherwise directed by ~~a Bridge employee~~an Employee or by ~~the State Police~~Emergency Personnel.

~~2.23.3~~ Uniform Direction of Traffic

No ~~vehiele~~Vehicle shall be operated, backed, pushed, or otherwise caused to move in a direction which is against the normal flow of traffic in any traffic lane, toll lane, shoulder, or other roadway of the ~~Bridge~~Bridges.

~~2.33.4~~ Slow-Moving Vehicles

All slow-moving ~~vehieles~~Vehicles permitted on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges shall use the right lane of the roadway unless otherwise directed, and shall not attempt to pass other slow-moving ~~vehieles~~Vehicles.

~~2.43.5~~ U-Turns

No ~~vehiele~~Vehicle shall make a U-turn at any point on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges.

~~2.53.6~~ Coasting

No ~~vehiele~~Vehicle shall be operated on a downgrade with the gears of such ~~vehiele~~Vehicle in neutral or the clutch disengaged.

~~3.7~~ Compression Braking

Excessive or unnecessary use of engine compression braking by Vehicles shall be prohibited on the Bridges, the Toll Plaza and on all approach roads to the Bridges.

~~2.63.8~~ Distance ~~Between~~between Moving Vehicles

Each ~~vehiele~~Vehicle shall maintain a safe and prudent distance behind the ~~vehiele~~Vehicle immediately preceding it in the same lane.

~~2.73.9~~ Entry to and Exit from the ~~Bridge~~Bridges

No ~~vehiele~~Vehicle shall enter upon or exit from the ~~Bridge~~Bridges except at designated locations.

2.83.10 Parking, Standing, or ~~Stopping~~ Stopping of Vehicles

Parking, standing, or stopping of ~~vehicles~~ Vehicles on the Bridge~~Bridges~~ is prohibited, except in areas designated by the Authority or in cases of emergency. ~~In cases~~ Cases of emergency, ~~which~~ are hereinafter defined to exist when the ~~vehicle~~ Vehicle in question is physically inoperable or unable to be operated safely or when the driver of the ~~vehicle~~ Vehicle is ill. ~~The vehicle~~ In case of emergency, the Vehicle shall be stopped in the right-hand lane if on the Bridge structure itself, or on the right-hand shoulder if at the ~~toll plaza~~ Toll Plazas or on ~~the an~~ approach road. ~~The driver shall use the safety walk or the shoulder to reach the nearest emergency telephone and call for help, and shall then return immediately to his vehicle. Once parked, the operator shall call the Administrative Office and remain in the Vehicle until assistance arrives, or as otherwise directed by Emergency Personnel or an Employee.-~~

Parking ~~in the facility~~ provided at the ~~toll plaza~~ Administrative Building shall be limited to persons having proper business to transact in the ~~administration building~~ Administration Building and shall be limited to the time required to conduct this business. Vehicles parked in violation of this requirement may be towed away and impounded. The owner of the ~~vehicle~~ Vehicle will ~~be held~~ be held responsible for the costs of towing and storage, and for any other related costs.

Stopping of ~~vehicles~~ Vehicles on any part of the Bridge~~Bridges~~ for the purpose of picking up or discharging any persons is strictly prohibited.

2.9.3.11 Vehicle ~~Repairing~~ Repairs and Tire Changing

Making repairs to a ~~vehicle~~ Vehicle or changing tires is prohibited at all times on the Bridge~~Bridges~~, except when authorized by and under the direction of ~~the State Police or an Authority employee. Disabled vehicles~~ Emergency Personnel or Employees. In the event a Vehicle is disabled or otherwise needs repair, operators shall call the Administrative Office and remain in the Vehicle until assistance arrives, or unless otherwise directed by Emergency Personnel or an Employee. Disabled Vehicles will be towed away ~~and serviced by garages designated by the Authority~~ at the owner's or operator's expense.

2.10 Civil Defense Regulations

~~Applicable Civil Defense regulations, as promulgated by the State Council, Department of Defense of the State of Rhode Island, shall be complied with on the Bridge.~~ 2.11

3.12 Compliance with State Motor ~~Vehicle~~ Vehicles Laws

Except as modified above, ~~all the~~ Motor ~~Vehicle~~ Vehicles Laws ~~of the State of Rhode Island~~ shall be in effect on the Bridge~~Bridges~~. The absence of any law or regulations from the above articles does not nullify its efficacy.

3.13 Emergency Personnel and Employee Exceptions

Vehicles which are operated by ~~the State Police~~Emergency Personnel, or by ~~employees or agents of the Authority~~Employees while ~~on~~conducting Authority business, are exempted from the restrictions ~~as~~ prescribed by ~~Articles 2.1 Sections 3.1 through 2.113.12~~ as long as they are operated in a safe manner and do not create a hazard to other ~~vehicles~~Vehicles.

ARTICLE 3. RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF THE BRIDGE

SECTION 4 – PROHIBITED TRAFFIC

3.14.1 Pedestrians

Pedestrians are prohibited from using or entering upon the ~~Bridge~~Bridges at any time, except ~~on~~in emergency situations on safety sidewalks or in areas specifically designated by the Authority for ~~that purpose. The use of the safety walks on the Bridge is limited to use by~~ persons requiring emergency help for themselves or their ~~vehicles, and no shall go farther from his car on these walks than the nearest emergency telephone~~Vehicles.

3.24.2 Animals

No animal shall be led, ridden, or driven on the hoof upon the ~~Bridge~~Bridges at any time.

3.34.3 Restricted Vehicles

4.3.1 General - The following vehicles are prohibited at all times from using the ~~Bridge~~Bridges:

- a. Vehicles drawn by animals.
- b. ~~Bicycles~~Except on the Mount Hope Bridge, bicycles with or without motors, motor scooters, motorcycles, and similar small vehicles with tire widths less than three inches.
- c. Farm implements or machinery, either self-propelled or towed.
- d. Construction equipment other than trucks.
- e. Vehicles with livestock not properly confined, or with improperly secured attachments or loads.
- f. Vehicles or combinations of ~~vehicles~~Vehicles, including any load thereon, which

exceed the following maximum dimensions:

Length: 55'-0"

Width: 8'-6"

Height: 13'-6"

- g. Vehicles or combinations of ~~vehieles~~Vehicles with total gross weights including the load, in excess of ~~seventy-two~~eighty thousand (~~72,000~~80,000) pounds, or with a single axle load in excess of thirty-two thousand (32,000) pounds.
- h. Passenger Vehicles with loads extending more than three feet beyond the front or six feet beyond the rear of the body, or with lateral projections in excess of 12 inches or vertical projections in excess of twenty-four (24) inches ~~(passenger vehicles only)~~.
- i. Vehicles with deflated pneumatic tires, metal or solid tires, or caterpillar treads.
- j. Vehicles with "lift axles" raised when otherwise required to be lowered to increase the weight capacity of the Vehicle, or to distribute the weight of the cargo across more wheels.
- k. ~~j-~~Vehicles in tow, unless both the towing and towed vehicles and the connecting and control device between them meet the requirements of the laws of the State ~~of Rhode Island~~, and the following special requirements:
 - 1. Not more than one ~~vehiele~~Vehicle may be towed ~~;~~ ;
 - 2. In addition to the drawbar or other connection, there must be a chain of sufficient strength to hold the towed ~~vehiele~~Vehicle on the steep grade of the ~~Bridge~~Bridges if the drawbar should become disconnected ~~;~~ and.
 - 3. Both the towing and towed ~~vehieles~~Vehicles must have brakes, brake lights, and directional signals which shall be synchronized and under the control of the driver.
- l. ~~k-~~Vehicles incapable of maintaining a speed ~~often~~of ten miles per hour on the Bridge upgrade under prevailing load conditions.
- m. ~~l-~~Vehicles whose condition, equipment, or tires are such as to be considered, in the judgment of the ~~Bridge Management or the State Police~~Authority or Emergency Personnel, unsafe for operation on the ~~Bridge~~.
- ~~m. Vehicles performing emergency or repair service unless acting under contract or permit from the Authority~~Bridges.

- n. Vehicles while operated by a person under the influence of intoxicating liquors or any narcotic or habit-forming drug.

In addition to the above restrictions, the Authority may temporarily prohibit other specified vehicles, including house trailers, at any time when, in the opinion of the Authority, adverse weather conditions would make the operation of these vehicles unsafe.

4.3.2 The Mount Hope Bridge - Overweight Vehicles restricted to forty (40) tons, and must obtain a permit. Over-wide must obtain clearance and secure police escorts if restricting travel in one direction as the facility is two (2) lanes only.

3.4.4.4 Special Use Permits

Upon application, the Authority may issue, from time to time, special permits authorizing the use of the ~~Bridge~~Bridges by ~~vehieles~~Vehicles otherwise restricted by ~~Article 3.3. Section 4.3.~~ Every such permit shall be carried in the ~~vehiele~~Vehicle to which it refers, and shall be open to inspection by ~~the Bridge employees and the State Police~~Employees and Emergency Personnel. The conditions under which the permit is issued may stipulate the dates and times at which its use may be permitted. Every person operating such a ~~vehieles~~Vehicle on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges under such a permit shall comply with all of the terms and conditions of the permit.

Special permits issued under ~~Title 31 of the Motor Vehicles Laws of the State of Rhode Island~~ shall not be valid on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges.

3.54.5 Transportation of Dangerous Articles and Hazardous Materials

The transportation of dangerous articles, at any time or place or in such a manner or condition as to endanger unreasonably or as to be likely to endanger unreasonably persons or property, is prohibited.

All ~~vehieles~~Vehicles transporting dangerous articles over, under, on or within the Bridge vicinity of the Bridges shall comply with all of the Motor Vehicles Laws ~~of the State of Rhode Island and, specifically R.I.G.L. § 31-23-37,~~ the Motor Carrier Safety Regulations of the United States Department of Transportation, and the United States Department of Homeland Security. ~~Dangerous articles are herein defined as flammable liquids, flammable solids, oxidizing materials, corrosive liquids, compressed gases, poisonous substances, and radioactive materials.~~

Transportation of Hazardous Materials shall be done so in compliance with the relevant portions of the Rhode Island General Laws, United States Department of Transportation as stated in the United States Code, and the United States Department of Homeland Security, whether the transportation is over, under, on or within the vicinity of the Bridges.

The Authority may implement separate rules and regulations for the transportation of Hazardous Materials over the Bridges.

SECTION 5 – TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND BRIDGE CLOSURES

5.1 Extreme Weather Conditions

The Authority may, during extreme weather conditions, temporarily close the Bridges or otherwise restrict access over the Bridges to certain classes of Vehicles when extreme weather conditions make it unsafe to use the Bridges.

5.2 Emergency Travel Restrictions

From time-to-time, the Authority may temporarily close the Bridges or implement certain travel regulations and restrictions for Vehicles using the Bridges to address emergencies and security threats that may arise and to mitigate any risks to public safety. Any travel regulations and restrictions implemented by the Authority will be undertaken on an emergency basis. Such restrictions may be instituted by the Authority in cooperation with federal, state and local authorities and in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

ARTICLE 4. SECTION 6 - GENERAL REGULATIONS

4.16.1 Waste and Rubbish

No persons shall throw, dump, or otherwise dispose of bottles, cans, paper, garbage, rubbish, or any waste materials of any kind or description on or from the ~~Bridge~~Bridges, except in receptacles intended for that purpose.

4.26.2 Damage to Property

No person shall deface, damage, mutilate, or remove any sign, delineator, structure, fence, or other property or equipment of the Authority, or attempt to do so.

4.36.3 Advertising Devices and Posters

No person shall erect, place, or display any advertising matter, posters, or placards of any kind on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges, except as otherwise authorized by the Authority.

4.46.4 Hitchhiking and Loitering

Soliciting of rides, commonly known as hitchhiking, is prohibited on the ~~Bridge~~Bridges. Hitchhiking or loitering in or about the toll plaza, administration building, approach road,

or any other portion of the ~~Bridge~~Bridges for any purpose is prohibited.

~~ARTICLE 5. SECTION 7 - TOLLS~~

~~Claiborne Pell and Mt. Hope Bridges~~

~~5.1 Payment of Tolls/Sale of Tokens – Claiborne Pell Bridge~~

~~Rhode Island General Law 24-12-37 – Penalty for nonpayment of toll.~~

~~a. Any person who uses the Bridge and fails or refuses to pay the toll provided therefore shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days or both.~~

~~b. It is unlawful for any person or business, other than an authorized representative of the Authority: (i) to sell, offer for sale or attempt to sell tokens, tickets, passes or other evidences of payment issued for passage on any project of the Authority, including but not limited to, the Bridge, if originally issued by the Authority pursuant to any program of the Authority providing for a reduced rate of toll based upon frequency of use of the project, volume of tokens, passes or other evidences of payment purchased, or method of payment for the toll; or (ii) to sell, offer for sale, or attempt to sell tokens, passes or other evidences of payment issued for passage on any project of the Authority, including but not limited to, the Claiborne Pell Bridge for a profit. Any person or business who is found in violation of this subsection shall be punished, for each offense, by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).~~

Vehicle Classification	One-Way Toll	Multi-crossing Toll (Tokens)
Two-axle passenger vehicles And two-axle school buses Designated by the Authority	\$2.00	11 for \$10.00
Motorcycles (with tire widths greater than three inches)	\$2.00	11 for \$10.00
Two-axle trucks and buses	\$2.00	none
Three-axle trucks, buses and Combinations	\$3.00	none

~~Four-axle trucks, and combinations \$4.00 none~~

~~Five-axle trucks, and combinations \$5.00 none~~

~~Overweight trucks excess 40 tons, permit required by the Authority
Tel. No. (401) 423-0800 Fax No. (401) 423-0830~~

~~5.2 Discounted Multiple Crossings Tokens~~

~~Prepaid tokens, sold in bulk quantities at reduced rates, are available for passage across the Bridge. Such tokens may be purchased only for two-axle passenger vehicles, motorcycles (tire widths greater than three inches), and three-quarter ton pick-up trucks and must be deposited in the automatic toll lanes only.~~

~~7.1 Payment of Tolls~~

~~5.2(a) Prepaid Tickets~~

~~Traffic shall be permitted on the Bridges only upon payment of such tolls and other charges as may be proscribed by the Authority at the regularly established places and in the manner establish for the collection of such tolls. Tolls are collected for traffic using the Claiborne Pell Bridge; no toll is currently collected for traffic using the Mount Hope Bridge.~~

~~7.2 E-ZPass Transponders~~

~~Prepaid tickets in strips of five (5) each are sold in the office. These are not discounted and are solely for the convenience of the user. The quantities are determined by the purchaser.~~

~~The Authority has established a toll pre-payment program, which allows patrons to purchase E-ZPass transponders and establish an E-ZPass account with the Authority that will deduct tolls from each account every time the transponder is used. More information regarding E-ZPass is available on the Authority's website at www.ritba.org. Also, the current toll schedule is available on the Authority's website at www.ritba.org/nbtolls.html.~~

~~5.37.3 Toll-Free Passage~~

Toll-free passage on the Claiborne Pell Bridge will be permitted for the following:

- ~~a. Executive staff members and employees of the Authority, and members of the State Police in the actual course of the performance of police duties. Employees~~

of the Authority while conducting Authority business.

- b. Emergency vehicles when summonedMembers of the Rhode Island State Police and emergency Vehicles operated by Emergency Personnel in response to a summons for assistance by the Authority.
- c. Authorized ~~vehieles~~Vehicles when engaged in the performance of construction, service, or maintenance contracts when such ~~vehieles~~Vehicles are operated by personnel authorized by the Authority to perform duties under the terms of contracts with the Authority

With the exception of the above, toll-free passage on the Claiborne Pell Bridge will not be permitted unless specifically authorized by the Authority.

5.3 (a) Mt. Hope Bridge

~~Toll Free. Overweight vehicles restricted to 42 tons, and must obtain a permit. Over wide must obtain clearance and secure police escorts if restricting travel in one direction as the facility is two (2) lanes only.~~

5.47.4 Funeral Processions and Convoys

Special arrangements may be made for the single payment of the aggregate of tolls for all the ~~vehieles~~Vehicles in a funeral procession or a convoy.

~~PART III. RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS OF REGULATIONS~~

7.5 Nonpayment of Tolls

~~The regulations proposed in PART II are established on the basis of sound engineering and traffic principles. The purposes of these regulations are: Authority has adopted a policy for nonpayment of tolls. R.I.G.L. § 24-12-37 provides for increased penalties for nonpayment of tolls and prohibits renewal of operator's licenses and motor vehicle registrations until such fines are paid in full. The regulations governing the nonpayment of tolls are published in the Authority's Rules and Regulations Governing the Nonpayment of Tolls.~~

- ~~1. To control traffic and prohibit acts hazardous in their nature or tending to impede or block the normal and reasonable flow of traffic on the Bridge.~~
- ~~2. To provide for the safety of persons and property, including the Authority's property, and to contribute towards the efficient and safe handling of traffic and use of the Bridge.~~

~~Whenever applicable, reference has been made to the Motor Vehicle Code Act of the State of Rhode Island (1966), referred to in these regulations as the Motor Vehicle Laws, and to~~

~~Chapter 12 of Title 24 of the Rhode Island General Law of 1956, with subsequent amendments, referred to in this report as the Enabling Legislation, which established the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority.~~

~~Authorization for the Regulations~~

~~Under Section 24-12-5 of the Enabling Legislation, the Authority is authorized and empowered to construct, maintain, repair and operate the Claiborne Pell Bridge (formerly the Newport Bridge). Section 31-12-2 of the Motor Vehicle Laws permits local authorities, "...with respect to streets and highways under their jurisdiction and within the reasonable exercise of the police power... to:~~

- ~~1. Regulate the standing or parking of vehicles;~~
- ~~2. Regulate traffic by means of police officers or traffic control signals;~~
- ~~3. Regulate or prohibiting processions or assemblages on the highways;~~
- ~~4. Designate particular highways as one (1) way highways and require that all vehicles thereon be moved in one (1) specific direction;~~
- ~~5. Regulate the speed of vehicles in public parks;~~
- ~~6. Designate any highway as a through highway and require that all vehicles stop before entering or crossing the same, or to designate any intersection as a stop intersection and require all vehicles to stop at one or more entrances to such intersection;~~
- ~~7. Restrict the use of highways as authorized in Sections 31-25-25 and 31-25-26;~~
- ~~8. Regulate or prohibit the turning of vehicles or specified types of vehicles at intersections;~~
- ~~9. Regulate the operation of bicycles and require the registration and licensing of same, including the requirement of a registration fee;~~
- ~~10. Alter the prima facie speed limits as authorized herein;~~
- ~~11. Adopt such other traffic regulations as are specifically authorized by Chapters 12 to 27, inclusive, of Title 31.~~

~~Penalties~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-27-13 of the Motor Vehicle Laws which provides for penalties as follows:~~

- ~~a. It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of chapter 1~~

~~to 27 inclusive, or chapter 34 of this title, unless such violation is by said chapters or other law of this state declared to be a felony.~~

~~b. Unless another penalty is provided by said chapters or by the laws of this state, every person convicted of a misdemeanor for the violation of any provision of said chapters shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.~~

~~Since the Bridge rules and regulations have been established in accordance with Section 3112-12 of the Motor Vehicle Laws, these penalties are applicable.~~

~~ARTICLE 1. SPEED LIMITS~~

~~1.1 — Maximum Speed Limits~~

~~The power to designate speed limits on the Bridge is specifically provided in several sections of the Motor Vehicle Laws. Section 31-14-12 stipulates as follows:~~

~~Speed limits on bridges and structures — (a) No person shall drive a vehicle over any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part of a highway at a speed which is greater than the maximum speed which can be maintained with safety to such bridge or structure, when such structure is sign posted as provided in this section.~~

~~Further reference is made to Section 31-14-1 which stipulates as follows:~~

~~Reasonable and prudent speeds — No person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. In every event, speed shall be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle, or other conveyance on or entering the highway in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.~~

~~Section 31-12-12 (10) grants the Authority the right to alter the prima facie speed limits. These limits are established in Section 31-14-2 (2) and (3) as 50 miles per hour during the daytime and 45 miles per hour during the nighttime.~~

~~A 40 mile per hour maximum speed limit has been adopted by the Authority upon the recommendations of the State Police and the Police Chiefs of Jamestown and Newport. The Bridge design is based upon a design speed of 50 miles per hour.~~

~~ARTICLE 2. OPERATION OF VEHICLES~~

~~2.1 — Obedience to Sims and Signals~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-12-3 of the Motor Vehicle Laws which states as follows:~~

~~Obedience to police officers.—No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of any police officer invested by law with authority to direct, control or regulate traffic.~~

~~Further reference is made to Section 31-13-4 which states as follows:~~

~~Obedience to devices.—The driver of any vehicle shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device applicable thereto placed in accordance with the provisions of chapters 12—27 of this title, unless otherwise directed by a traffic or police officer, subject to the exceptions granted the driver of an emergency vehicle in said chapters.~~

~~This regulation differs from the above legislation only in that it extends the authority to control traffic to employees of the Authority. This authority is necessary in order that toll collectors and other employees can enforce the restrictions of Article 3, as well as supplement the Police whenever necessary for the direction and control of traffic.~~

~~2.2—Uniform Direction of Traffic~~

~~Driving an automobile in a direction opposing the normal flow of traffic is always a dangerous undertaking, whether the vehicle is traveling forward or in reverse. The average driver estimates his/her stopping distance by his/her traveling speed relative to a stationary object. When this object is moving towards the vehicle, the relative speed is increased and the resulting risk involved is increased considerably. Furthermore, a driver operating a vehicle in reverse has less control over the vehicle, thereby making it more difficult to remain in one lane.~~

~~These risks are increased further on the Bridge structure due to the grades on the Bridge, the lack of shoulders, the relatively high speed (50 miles per hour) of most vehicles, and the fact that a driver normally does not expect to find such traffic conflicts on a limited access highway.~~

~~Section 31-22-2 of the Motor Vehicle Laws stipulates that:~~

~~Restriction on backing.—The driver of a vehicle may not move in reverse unless that movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic.~~

~~Considering the added risks listed above, this restriction shall be applicable at all times on the Bridge.~~

~~2.3—Slow Moving Vehicles~~

~~The purpose of this regulation is to maintain a uniform traffic flow on the Bridge and to reduce weaving movements. Because of the grades and the existence of slow moving vehicles, a considerable speed differential will exist on the Bridge, and for this reason a considerable amount of passing is expected to occur. In order to insure, for the sake of safety, that passing will be accomplished as much as possible in the left lane, and to avoid situations where a vehicle desiring to pass or travel at or near the maximum speed limit is forced to weave between the lanes in order to pass slower moving vehicles which are utilizing both lanes, all slow moving~~

~~traffic is required to use the right lane exclusively.~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-15-11(3) of the Motor Vehicle Laws, which stipulates: Official signs may be erected directing slow moving traffic to use a designated lane....and drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of the sign.~~

~~Such signs are provided at both ends of the Bridge.~~

~~The regulation that all slow moving vehicles must use the right lanes does not affect the restrictions under Article 3.3 which prohibits the use of the Bridge to those vehicles which are not capable of maintaining a speed often (10) miles per hour on the upgrade under prevailing loads.~~

~~2.4 — U Turns~~

~~U turns not only are completely unnecessary on the Bridge, but also are extremely dangerous. The curb to curb width on the Bridge roadway will prevent most vehicles from making such a movement without several maneuvers, thereby causing traffic in both directions to slow down or to come to a complete stop. Because of the grade on the Bridge, many vehicles would have considerable difficulty starting up again on the upgrade. Since the ridge is a completely limited access facility with access only at the two ends, there is no justifiable reason for any vehicle to make a U-turn.~~

~~Under emergency conditions, U turns may be accomplished at the toll plaza under the direction of the State Police or an Authority employee.~~

~~2.5 — Coasting~~

~~The purpose of this regulation is to reduce the chance of vehicles rolling out of control on the grades of the ridge roadway. Reference is made to Section 31-22-6 of the Motor Vehicles Laws, which states:~~

~~Coasting prohibited. — (a) When traveling down a grade, the driver of any motor vehicle shall not coast with the vehicle in neutral gear. (b) When traveling down a grade, the driver of a commercial motor vehicle shall not coast with the clutch applied in order to disengage the drive gears.~~

~~2.6 — Distance between Moving Vehicles~~

~~The purpose of this regulation is to reduce the risk of collision due to sudden stops, speed changes, or skids. Reference is made to Section 31-15-12 of the Motor Vehicle Laws, which stipulates as follows:~~

~~Interval between vehicles.—The driver of a motor vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of the vehicles and the traffic upon and the condition of the highway, and shall, whenever~~

~~traveling through a business or residential district, and whenever traffic permits, leave sufficient space so that an overtaking vehicle can enter and occupy such space without danger. This provision does not apply to a caravan under police escort or a funeral procession.~~

~~2.7 — Entry to and Exit from the Bridge~~

~~This regulation is designed to accomplish the following purposes:~~

- ~~a. — To insure the integrity of the toll collection system.~~
- ~~b. — To eliminate a potential safety hazard by preventing the entry to or exit from the main roadways without proper acceleration or deceleration lanes.~~
- ~~c. — To help protect the landscaping on the toll plaza and approach roads from damage by vehicles operating "out of bounds".~~

~~The power to establish and enforce the limits of access to the Bridge is specifically delineated in the State Laws. In Section 24-12-9(12) of the Enabling Legislation, the Authority is authorized and empowered:~~

~~To designate the locations, with the approval of the director of transportation, and establish, limit and control such points of ingress to and egress from the turnpike and any additional facility as may be necessary or desirable in the judgment of the Authority to insure the proper operation and maintenance thereof, and to prohibit entrance to and exit from any point or points not so designated.~~

~~Reference is also made to Section 31-15-14 of the Motor Vehicle Laws, which states as follows:~~

~~Entry or leaving of limited access roadways.— No person shall drive a vehicle onto or from any limited access roadway except at those entrances and exits established by public authority.~~

~~2.8 — Parking, Standing, or Stopping of Vehicles~~

~~This regulation is intended to aid in the safe operation of the Bridge, and to protect both the Authority property and the vehicles using it. Vehicles which are parked, stopped, or standing upon the Bridge roadway constitute a serious traffic hazard, particular at night when drivers of oncoming vehicles may not see the stopped vehicle within a sufficient time to avoid collision. Since neither shoulders nor a median are provided on the Bridge structure, it is not possible to pull off of the roadway for most of the length of the Bridge. In cases of emergency, vehicles may use the designated parking area at the toll plaza.~~

2.9—Vehicle Repairing and Tire Changing

~~The reasoning for this regulation is similar to that outlined for Article 2.8. There also is the additional danger to any person standing on the roadway while undertaking such repairs. Furthermore, such a person would be acting in violation of Article 3.1 which prohibits pedestrians on the Bridge. A system of emergency road service has been established for the Bridge, and the motorist may call for this service by using the emergency telephones located at intervals along the safety walk.~~

~~In addition to the references listed under Article 2.8, further reference is made to Section 3121-3 of the Motor Vehicle Laws which states as follows:~~

~~Removal of vehicle obstructing traffic on or in tunnel.—Whenever any police officer finds a vehicle, whether attended or unattended, disabled upon any bridge or causeway or in any tunnel where the vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic, the officer is hereby authorized to provide for the removal of the vehicle to the nearest garage, service station, or other place of safety.~~

2.10—Civil Defense Regulations

~~The purpose of this regulation is self-explanatory.~~

2.11—Compliance with State Motor Vehicle Laws

~~The purpose of the bridge regulations contained herein is to emphasize certain regulations which are particularly applicable to the Bridge, and to define and establish those regulations which differ from the requirements of the Rhode Island Motor Vehicle Laws. Unless otherwise stated in these regulations, all provisions of the Motor Vehicle Laws shall be in effect on the Bridge.~~

ARTICLE 3. RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF THE BRIDGE

3.1—Pedestrians

~~The Bridge is designed for vehicular traffic only, and no walks, paths, or other facilities for pedestrians are provided except at the toll plaza and administration building. Drivers do not expect to encounter pedestrians on a major bridge crossing, and consequently, are less alert to the dangers involved. The presence of pedestrians on the Bridge creates a serious traffic hazard for both the pedestrians and the oncoming vehicles.~~

~~For the purpose of this regulation, a driver or passenger of a vehicle on the Bridge who~~

~~leaves the vehicle is considered a pedestrian.~~

~~3.2 — Animals~~

~~The presence of animals on or near the Bridge roadways can lead to serious traffic hazards. Since the Bridge is relatively short in length, there is no reason for any animal, whether restrained or not, to be outside of any vehicle on the Bridge property.~~

~~3.3 — Restricted Vehicles~~

~~a. — Vehicles Drawn by Animals. Such vehicles cannot maintain a reasonable speed on the upgrades of the Bridge, and their average speed under any conditions is so slow that they would impede or block the normal and reasonable flow of traffic on the Bridge. Article 3.3k of these Regulations prohibits vehicles which are unable to maintain a speed often (10) miles per hour. Furthermore, it is more difficult to control animals, especially to keep them within the proper lane, thereby creating an extremely hazardous condition.~~

~~b. — Bicycles, Motorcycles, and Motor Scooters. This regulation is necessary to protect both the riders of such vehicles and other users of the Bridge. The transverse expansion joints on the Bridge structure have gaps about two inches in width and several feet in length parallel to the direction of travel. A vehicle with a tire width of less than three inches, if it ran over these gaps, would be subject to a loss of driver control, and possibly would be overturned, thereby creating an extremely hazardous condition on the Bridge. It also should be noted that a bicycle without a motor probably cannot maintain the required minimum speed often (10) miles per hour as required in Article 3.3k of these regulations.~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-12-12(8), which permits the Authority to regulate the operation of bicycles on facilities under its jurisdiction.~~

~~c. — Farm Implements or Machinery. Vehicles of this nature not only travel at speeds too slow to insure the smooth and safe flow of traffic, but also would subject the Bridge roadways to excessive wear or damage.~~

~~Farm vehicles are defined under Section 31-1-8 of the Motor Vehicle Laws as:~~

~~Every vehicle which is designed for agricultural purposes and exclusively used by the owner of the vehicle in the conduct of his or her agricultural operations.~~

~~d. — Construction Equipment. Construction equipment should be prohibited on the Bridge for the following reasons:~~

- ~~1. — Such equipment generally travels at speeds too slow to insure the smooth and safe flow of traffic, and in many cases will not be able to sustain the ten (10) mile per hour minimum speed required by Article 3.3k of these regulations.~~
- ~~2. — The weight of such vehicle is a potential cause of excessive wear or damage to the roadway. Furthermore, the weight of some of this equipment is in excess of the limits permitted under Article 3.3g of these regulations.~~
- ~~3. — The unusual sizes and shapes of many types of construction equipment creates an additional hazard. Much of this equipment does not comply with the dimension limits permitted under Article 3.3f of these regulations.~~

~~For the purpose of this article, construction equipment is defined as the special mobile equipment covered under Section 31-1-9 of the Motor Vehicle Laws.~~

~~e. — Vehicles with Livestock Not Properly Confined or Other Loads Not Properly Secured. This regulation is designed to reduce the chances of livestock or other loads being released accidentally and falling onto the roadway where it would create a dangerous hazard to traffic. Reference is made to Section 31-25-9 of the Motor Vehicle Laws which stipulates as follows:~~

~~Prevention of leakage of load. — No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any highway unless the vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or escaping from it. However, sand may be deliberately dropped for the purpose of securing traction, or water or another substance may be sprinkled on a roadway in cleaning or maintaining the roadway.~~

~~f. — Vehicles Exceeding Maximum Dimensions. The restrictive dimensions in this regulation conform with those of the State of Rhode Island, specified in Sections 31-25-3, 31-25-4, 31-25-5 and 31-25-6 of the Motor Vehicle Laws. These restrictions are imposed in order to assure the safest use of the Bridge and the smoothest flow traffic.~~

~~g. — Vehicles Exceeding Weight Limitations. The purpose of this regulation is to protect the structural integrity of the Bridge and to avoid excessive wear and/or damage to the roadways. The weight limitations conform to the loading criteria by which the Bridge was designed, and are considerably in excess of the limits established for State Highways by Sections 31-25-13 and 31-25-14 of the Motor Vehicle Laws.~~

~~h. — Vehicles with Unsafe Load Projections. This regulation is provided as an additional safety measure. Vehicles with projecting loads tend to be more unstable and often~~

~~more difficult to control. The lateral projection limitation is particularly important because the safety walk, which is only three feet wide, is immediately adjacent to the Bridge roadway, and lateral projecting loads could be extremely hazardous to any person who for any reason may be on the safety walk. The front and rear projection limits conform to the requirements of Section 31-25-7 of the Motor Vehicle Laws. Moreover, the combined vehicle and load dimensions may not exceed the limits set forth in Article 3.3f of these regulations.~~

~~i. Vehicles with Deflated Pneumatic Tires, Metal or Solid Tires, or Caterpillar Treads. In general, the comments listed under Articles 3.3c and 3.3d also will apply to this class of vehicles.~~

~~j. Vehicles in Tow. Vehicles towing or being towed by other vehicles shall be permitted to use the Bridge only if they conform strictly to the requirements of the State of Rhode Island and the special requirements set forth herein. All other regulations also will apply to vehicles in tow.~~

~~k. Vehicles Unable to Maintain Minimum Speed. It has been determined by experience that large differences in speeds between vehicles traveling on the same roadway often represent more of a hazard to safe operation than high speeds alone.~~

~~On the Bridge, because vehicles must come to a full stop at the toll plaza and then move onto a 4.8 percent upgrade, it has been determined that some heavily loaded trucks or tractor-trailer combinations which otherwise meet all of the requirements of the regulations would have difficulty in maintaining a speed in excess often (10) miles per hour on the upgrade. Because of the lack of an alternate route, it has been decided to permit vehicles which can maintain at least this speed to use the Bridge. However, a vehicle moving at a speed below ten (10) miles per hour presents all of the hazards of a stopped vehicle and is prohibited from using the Bridge.~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-14-9 of the Motor Vehicle Laws which stipulates in part as follows:~~

~~Minimum speed.—(a) No person shall drive a motor vehicle at such slow speed as to impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic except when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or in compliance with law.~~

~~l. Unsafe Vehicles. Traffic engineers consider that the safe operation of modern highspeed highway facilities is endangered by the use on such facilities of vehicles whose condition, equipment, or tires fall below a reasonable standard. On the Bridge, with its large speed differences, long grades, and lack of shoulders or other off pavement facilities, the condition of the vehicle is even more important than it would be under driving conditions on ordinary highways.~~

~~Reference is made to Title 31, Chapters 23 and 24 of the Motor Vehicle Laws in which the standards for Equipment and Accessories are prescribed. Special reference is made to Section 31-231, which states:~~

~~(a) It is a civil violation for any person to drive or move or for the owner to cause or knowingly permit to be driven or moved on any highway, any vehicle or combination of vehicles which is in such an unsafe condition as to endanger any person, or which does not contain those parts or is not at all times equipped with such lamps and other equipment in proper condition and adjustment as required in this chapter or chapter 24 of this title, or for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required under those chapters.~~

~~m. Emergency Vehicles. Under a policy established by the Authority, permission to perform emergency services on the Bridge is granted to a limited number of garages. These garages operate under a contract with the Authority, under which contract, in return for the franchise, the garage is required to maintain a certain standard of equipment and service and to charge a fixed rate for service as approved by the Authority. The terms of these contracts insure that the public will be assured of getting the best possible service at a fair and reasonable cost. The presence of unauthorized services on the Bridge would negate the assurances to the public and would affect adversely the integrity of the contracts with the garages.~~

~~n. Liquor and Drugs. Reference is made to Section 31-27-2 of the Motor Vehicle Laws in which the operation of a vehicle while under the influence of liquor or habit forming drugs is specifically and unqualifiedly prohibited. Although this prohibition is already sufficiently covered by law, its importance is such as to make its inclusion in the regulations highly desirable.~~

~~3.4 Permits~~

~~This regulation is necessary to assure proper traffic control and safety.~~

~~3.5 Transportation of Dangerous Articles~~

~~The purpose of this regulation is to prevent accidents or potentially dangerous situations involving vehicles carrying cargoes which, if not properly contained, would constitute a hazard to the carrier, to other vehicles and persons on the Bridge, or to the Bridge itself.~~

~~Reference is made to Section 31-23-37 of the Motor Vehicle Laws, which is applicable to vehicles carrying explosives, and to the motor carrier safety regulations of the United States Department of Transportation, which are broad in scope and encompass all of the types of dangerous cargoes contemplated in this article.~~

~~ARTICLE 4. GENERAL REGULATIONS~~

~~4.1 Waste and Rubbish~~

~~The primary purpose of this regulation is to eliminate the hazards to traffic caused by the presence of debris and trash on the roadways. As a further consideration, it has been noted on many other similar facilities that littering practices, as described in this regulation, substantially increase the cost of roadway maintenance and impair the appearance of the landscaping along the~~

~~right-of-way.~~

~~This regulation is similar to those found on other toll facilities. Reference is made to Section 3122-9 of the Motor Vehicle Laws, which prohibits the throwing or depositing upon any highway "any glass bottle, glass, nails, tacks, wire, cans, or any other substance likely to injure any person, animal, or vehicle upon the highway, or likely to deface the beauty or cleanliness of the highway ..."~~

~~4.2 — Damage to Property~~

~~The purpose of all signs, fences, structures, and other appurtenances erected by the Authority along the Bridge is to aid in the safe and efficient operation of the Bridge.~~

~~4.3 — Advertising Devices and Posters~~

~~The intent of this regulation is to prohibit advertising of all kinds along the Bridge. It has been determined that the indiscriminate erection of signs along a highway represents a safety hazard by decreasing sight distances, distracting the motorist, and detracting attention from the necessary informational and cautionary signs posted by the Authority. Such distractions represent an additional hazard on the Bridge, considering the large speed differentials, restricted lateral clearances, and other operating characteristics.~~

~~In order not to discriminate for or against any groups, all kinds of advertising; commercial, political, charity, etc., is prohibited. This regulation is not intended to prohibit the display on a vehicle of the operator's name, business, etc.; or any advertising which is a permanent fixture on the vehicle, but is intended to prohibit the display of banners, posters, temporary signs, and the like, which would tend, or are intended specifically, to attract the attention of the motorist.~~

~~4.4 — Hitchhiking and Loitering~~

~~Hitchhiking is expressly prohibited by Sections 24-10-17 and 31-18-12 of the Motor Vehicle Laws. Furthermore, a hitchhiking is by definition a pedestrian and his/her presence on the Bridge would constitute a violation of Article 3.1 of these regulations. A motorist stopping to pick up a hitchhiker would be violating Article 2.8 of these regulations. The reasons for the prohibition of hitchhikers are covered under these two articles.~~

~~ARTICLE 5. TOLLS~~

~~5.1 — Payment of Tolls~~

~~Section 24-12-26 of the Enabling Legislation authorizes the Authority "... to fix, revise, charge, and collect tolls for the use of the [Newport] Bridge The toll schedule included in these regulations has been approved by the Authority and by its traffic engineers, and is in accordance with the requirements of Section 24-12-27 of the Enabling Legislation.~~

~~If the established toll schedule is not applicable to certain unusual vehicles crossing the Bridge by permit under Article 3.4 of these regulations, a toll rate will be determined at the time the permit is issued.~~

~~5.2 — Prepaid Tokens~~

~~As a part of the approved toll schedule, a multi-crossing toll rate has been established, utilizing a system of prepaid tokens. These tokens are sold in packages often (nine plus a pass at the toll booths) and are each valid for one crossing of the Bridge. The approved toll schedule limits the use of these tokens to two-axle passenger cars, two-axle school buses authorized by the Authority, and motorcycles (with tire widths greater than three inches). The use of such tokens for any other class of vehicle constitutes a violation of the terms of Article 5.1 which establishes the toll schedule.~~

~~The use of tokens for multiple-use trips is an integral part of an automatic toll collection system provided for this traffic. These tokens are honored only in specific designated toll lanes equipped to handle the tokens automatically. The toll collectors operating the manual lanes are not authorized to accept tokens, and all vehicles using the manually operated toll lanes will be charged the full cash fare.~~

~~5.3 — Toll-Free Passage~~

~~The exemptions from the requirements to pay the toll listed in Article 5 are established as an aid to the operation of the Bridge, or as a courtesy established by Authority policy.~~

~~5.4 — Funeral Processions and Convoys~~

~~The purpose of this article is to allow the single payment of the aggregate of tolls for all the vehicles in a funeral processions or convoy where the stopping of each vehicle thereof for toll payment is not desired.~~

~~APPENDIX "A"~~

~~General Plan—Claiborne Pell Bridge
(see illustrations)~~

APPENDIX "BA"

ICE and SNOW PLAN for the CLAIBORNE PELL BRIDGE and THE MOUNT HOPE BRIDGE

This PLAN, upon ~~arrival~~approval by the Executive Director of the Authority, is the ICE and SNOW PLAN for THE CLAIBORNE PELL BRIDGE and THE MOUNT HOPE BRIDGE. It is to be made a part of the REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE CLAIBORNE PELL BRIDGE and THE MOUNT HOPE BRIDGE and is to be included therein as APPENDIX "B".

JURISDICTION: The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority (RITBA) has jurisdiction and responsibility for the road surface extending from a point eightseven hundred (~~800700~~) feet north of the Toll Booths, commonly referred to as the "Gore", eastward to the abutment on the Newport shoreline, a distance of approximately 2.24 miles.

SUPPORT: The RITBA has made an agreement for sanding, application of Magnesium Chloride de-icing chemical and plowing the Bridge with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (R.I.D.O.T.). For other than routine sanding, de-icing and plowing, a R.I.D.O.T. patrol vehicle with a snowplow and sander mounted, is available on an on-call basis. Implementation of this agreement, even for routine sanding and plowing, is the responsibility of the Authority. This responsibility is to be executed by a member of the Authority (Toll Plaza Supervisor, a maintenance man or a Toll Collector) by calling the R.I.D.O.T. Maintenance Facility at Portsmouth, telephone number (401)-683-1070. If no answer, call R.I.D.O.T. Traffic Maintenance at (401)-222-2378. In making this request, indicate the degree of urgency, such as immediately, or at a specific time. In considering a specified time keep in mind that maximum volume of traffic occurs between 7:00 am -to- 9:00 am and again between 3:00 pm -to- 6:00 pm. It is desirable to have all treatment done at least one hour prior to these times.

ICE CONDITIONS: Light rain, drizzle, freezing rain, or sleet. Temperature below freezing.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOR ABOVE CONDITIONS:

1. Monitor weather sensor system to identify heightened concerns.
2. Call in R.I.D.O.T. sand trucks - magnesium chloride trucks until ~~bridge~~Bridge deck surface offers sufficient traction.
- ~~2.3.~~ Activate ~~Fiber optic~~Fiber optic Sign Message which reads: "REDUCE SPEED - ICE for traffic in both directions.
- ~~3.4.~~ Inspect bridge deck as often as necessary and take action appropriate for conditions observed.
- ~~4.5.~~ Sand Parking lot.

SNOW CONDITIONS:

1. Light snow flurries, snow accumulation less than two (2) inches.
2. Heavy snowfall with no wind, snow piling up to a depth in excess of two (2) inches.
3. Heavy drifting snow, blizzard conditions. Snow accumulating on ~~bridge~~Bridge deck to a depth in excess of two (2) inches and in drifts to a ~~depth~~level which will stop traffic.

ACTION:

For condition #1; Do not plow. Traffic will probably dissipate the snow. ~~If and if~~ equipment is available, sweep snow off road surfaces. However, if temperature is favorable, traffic will pack this snow and it will become slippery. Sand as necessary to keep surface from becoming slippery. No further action needed unless weather deteriorates.

For conditions #2 and #3; Call in R.I.D.O.T. snowplows and have them commence plowing. Call in own maintenance forces and have them commence plowing also. If blizzard conditions exist have plowing continue until storm is over. Otherwise once road surface is clear cease plowing operation, and sand road surfaces.

Other actions under snow conditions are as follows:

1. Activate ~~Fiber optic~~Fiber optic sign message which reads: "REDUCE SPEED - SNOW for traffic in both directions.
2. Inspect bridge deck as often as necessary, and take action appropriate for conditions observed.
3. Plow own parking lot, approaches thereto, and sidewalks as necessary.
4. Inspect bridge deck at least two (2) hours before each peak traffic period when threat of a snow storm exists.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON ROAD SURFACES:

1. ~~The best source of information is the traveling~~ Monitor weather sensors.
2. Inspections by Maintenance and Operations.
3. Traveling public. The Plaza Supervisor is urged to have the toll collectors inquire of them as to the conditions on the surface of the bridge.
2. ~~Your own inspections.~~