

Research Need for Operations and Maintenance Technical Advisory Group

Posted: 8/14/2026

1. Issue Identified:

Durability of Reflectors Installed on Bridge Parapets, Permanent Concrete Barriers and Temporary Concrete Barriers

2. Summary of Problem:

Reflectors installed on bridge parapets, permanent concrete barriers and temporary concrete barriers have a relatively short service life, typically 2 to 4 years, before they become detached or damaged by snowplow operations. See photos below.

3. Desired Results/Outcome:

The research will consist of the following tasks:

- Evaluate commercially available reflectors, recommended installation methods and expected service life.
- Survey other state transportation agencies regarding the types of reflectors used, expected service life and installation methods.
- Determine desirable reflector placement to facilitate installation, improve visibility and reduce the potential for damage. Include guardrails and barrier/parapet walls.
- Evaluate methods to reduce or prevent snowplow damage to reflectors.





