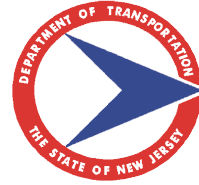


New Jersey Department of Transportation
1035 Parkway Avenue, PO Box 600, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600



Baseline Document Change Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENT: BDC19T-01

DATE: August 21, 2019

SUBJECT: Design Exception Manual
- Release of the Design Exception Manual, 2019

REFERENCE: Controlling Design Elements Revisions
- Update to “Section 1 – Introduction” of the Roadway Design Manual, 2015

BDCMR-01 dated August 22, 2019

The Design Exception Manual, 2019 is hereby released. Major changes to the 2012 Edition of the Design Exception Manual are as follows:

Section 1.0 General – Various clarifications and links added.

Section 2.0 Controlling Design Elements – Rewritten:

- Section 2.1 - Design Exception Type 1 NHS roadways with Design Speeds \geq 50 MPH
- Section 2.2 - Design Exception Type 2 NHS roadways with Design Speeds $<$ 50 MPH
- Section 2.3 - Design Exception Type 3 Major Access/Developer Projects (all design Speeds)

Section 2.4 - New section added

- Vertical Clearance Department of Defense (Bridges over Interstates)

Section 2.5 - New section added

- Vertical Clearance – Rail Road bridges

Section 3.0 – Resource publications added with links

Section 4.0 - Project Types Requiring a Design Exception – clarifications added

Section 5.0 – Projects exempt from the Design Exception Procedure - clarification added

Section 5.1 - Preventive Maintenance Projects- clarification added

- 5.1.1 Roadway Activities; 1st bullet; Pavement resurfacing....

Section 5.3 - State Aid projects – Rewritten for clarity. (The intent was not changed.)

Section 5.4 – New section added

- Orphan bridges

Section 6.0 – Design Exception Report Format – minor clarifications and Design Exception Report Checklist added.

Section 7.0 - Crash Analysis - clarifications added.

Section 8 – Flow Chart deleted. A new section added (Geometric Review)
Reasonable Assurance has been renamed “Geometric Review” and incorporated into the Design Exception Manual.

Attachments and Appendixes revised to reflect various content changes. Notably:

- Attachment #3 Checklists have been eliminated
- Appendix B – Low Costs Safety Measures – Links added
 - Proven Safety Countermeasures
 - Making Our Roads Safer One Countermeasure at a Time

The revisions in this BDC must be read in conjunction with the referenced Roadway Design Manual BDC Announcement, BDCMR-01.

Implementation Code S (SPECIAL)

Capital Program and Local Aid projects:

1. All projects, regardless of design phase, shall follow the guidelines stated within the 2019 Design Exception Manual (**2019 DEM**). Projects currently beyond Concept Development must have a previously approved Reasonable Assurance on record. (The approved Reasonable Assurance will account for the new “Geometric Review” requirement discussed with Section 8 of the 2019 DEM). In addition, if a new design element, in accordance with Section 8 of the 2019 DEM, is identified after CD, it should be addressed via an addendum to the previously approved Reasonable Assurance, regardless of the design Speed or NHS or Non-NHS.

Major Access Projects:

2. Much of the Design Exception requirements have not changed for these projects, therefore all projects shall follow the 2019 DEM.

Recommended By:



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