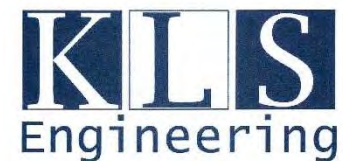
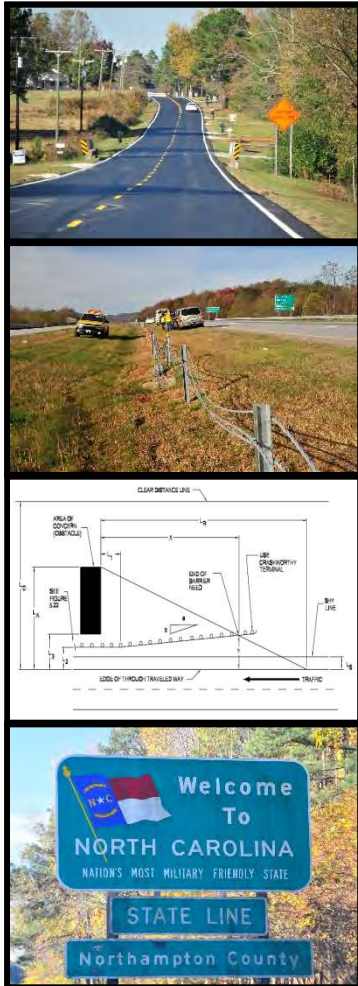


# North Carolina Department of Transportation Highway Safety Barrier Design Training

Instructor: Bill Fitzgerald, PE  
KLS Engineering, LLC  
(703) 858 1356

March 2 – 3, 2020



# Ground Rules

- Be on time
- Participate
- Restrict sidebar conversations
- Turn off cellphones



# Guidance Presented



## ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE



4<sup>th</sup> Edition

SHEET 1 OF 11  
862.01

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
STATE HIGHWAY AND  
TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS  
**AASHTO**  
THE VOICE OF TRANSPORTATION

### ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

PART 1

### CHAPTER THREE

### GUARDRAIL, BARRIERS AND ATTENUATORS

#### GUARDRAIL WARRANTS

3-1

Warrants for guardrail are to be in accordance with the "Roadside Design Guide" and with the guardrail warrant curves included in this Chapter.

In the preliminary design stage, the designer will establish the location and grade of the project so as to eliminate as much guardrail as possible using these warrants.

After location data is received, plans plotted, grades set, and initial templates determined, the following procedures should be followed:

- (1) Determine Guardrail Locations
  - (a) Is guardrail warranted in accordance with Figure 1 in this Chapter? If not required, go to (c). If required, go to (b).
  - (b) Is guardrail required in accordance with Figures 4 through 6 of this Chapter? If not required, go to (c).
  - (c) Is guardrail warranted in accordance with Table 2 and 3 in this Chapter? Refer to Sheet 1-4M and 1-4N in Chapter 1 of this manual.
- (2) Can Guardrail be eliminated?

### ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT

1-18 STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.

862D0 X



NCDOT



Session 1



1-3



# Additional Resources

The screenshot shows the FHWA Safety website. The main heading is 'Countermeasures that Reduce Crash Severity'. Below it, there is a section for 'Hardware Eligibility Letters' with a list of items: Longitudinal Barriers and Bridge Rails, Barrier Terminals and Crash Cushions, Sign Supports, Mailboxes, and Delineator Posts, Luminaire Supports, and Work Zone Devices. There is also a 'PROGRAM CONTACT' section with contact information for Will Longstreet and Menna Yassin.

FHWA Eligibility Letters

[https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway\\_dept/countermeasures/reduce\\_crash\\_severity/](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept/countermeasures/reduce_crash_severity/)

<https://mwrsf.unl.edu/researchhub>



The screenshot shows the Roadside Safety Pooled Fund website. The main heading is 'Roadside Safety Pooled Fund'. Below it, there is a navigation menu with 'ABOUT', 'PROJECTS', 'MASH', and 'NEWS'. The main content area features a large image of a truck on a road with a guardrail.



TTI Pooled funds, etc.

<https://www.roadsidepooledfund.org>

UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA-LINCOLN



MIDWEST ROADSIDE SAFETY FACILITY



Home

Who We Are

Services

Pooled Fund

Nebraska | MwRSF | Research Hub

Research Hub



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Session 1

1-4

# Objectives of Course

At the end of this module you will be able to:

- Identify when a traffic barrier MAY be the best treatment to use at a specific site.
- Select a barrier that will adequately shield the identified hazard(s).
- Assess the topography of the site to provide for an optimal barrier system installation.



# Session 1: Introduction and Pre-assessment



**NCDOT**



**Session 1**



**1-6**



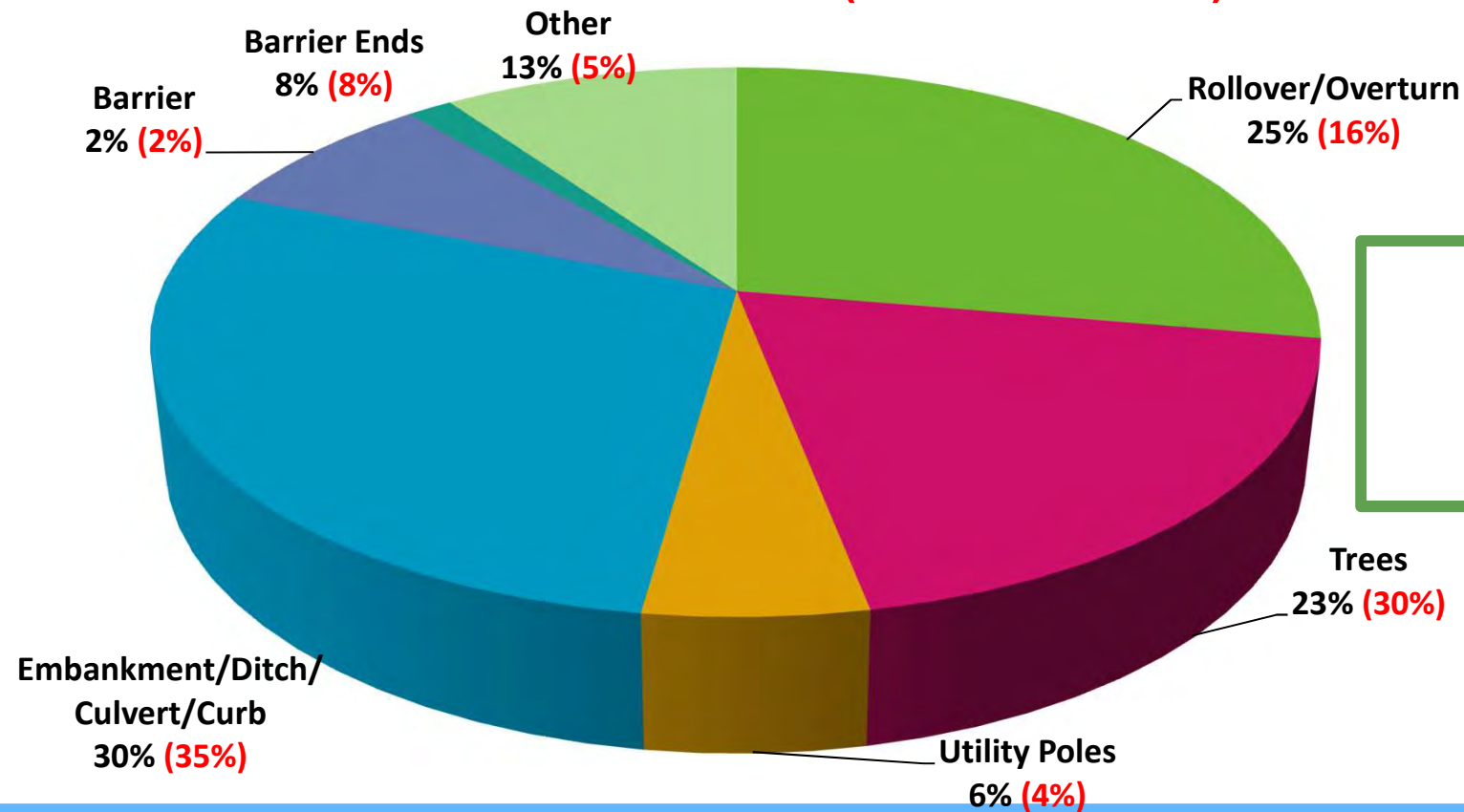
# Session 1 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Identify the primary Roadside Safety Concerns in North Carolina.
- Assess your current knowledge of Barrier Design Principles.

# National Roadway Departure Fatalities

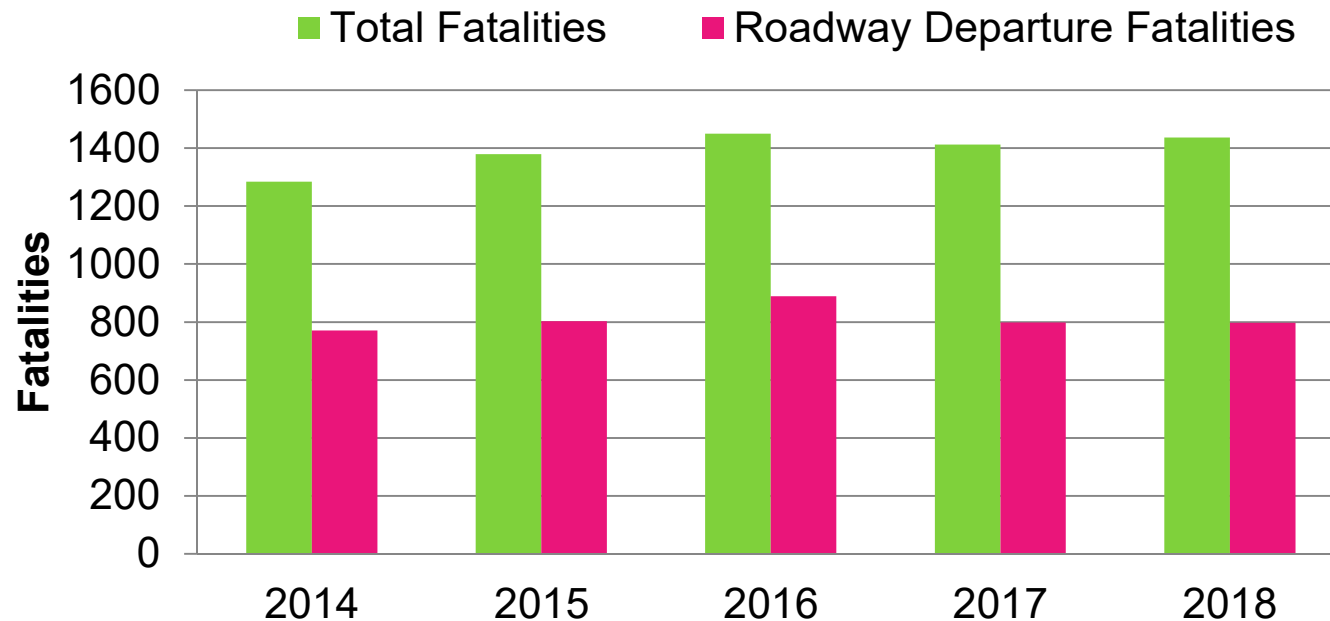
(Single Vehicle Fatal Crashes)  
National (**North Carolina**)



Total US  
Highway  
Fatalities  
37,143

# North Carolina Crash Data Trend

## North Carolina Total Fatalities vs. Roadway Departure Fatalities



Ref: FARS Data – 2018



**NCDOT**

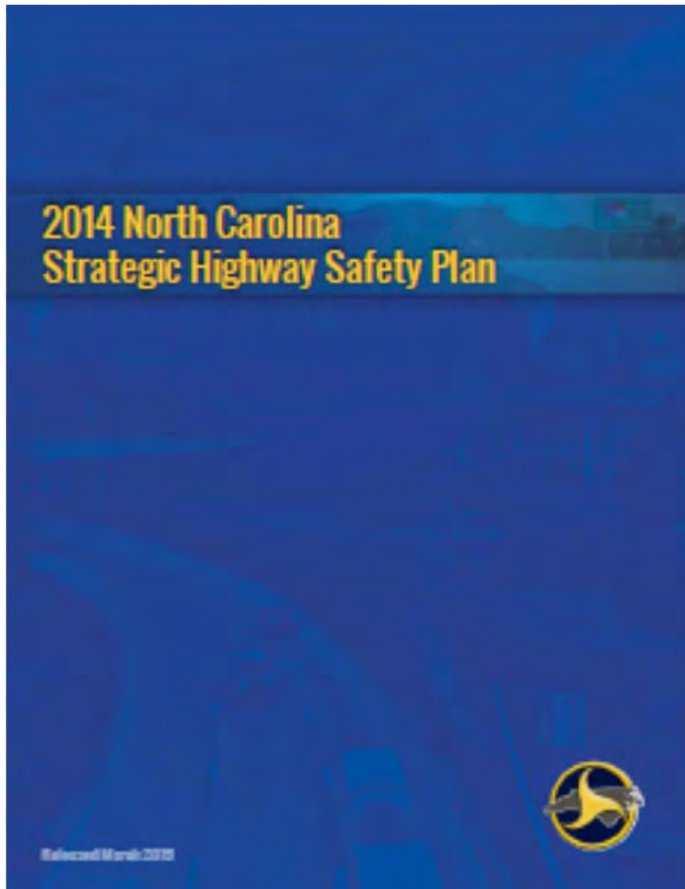


**Session 1**

**1-9**



# North Carolina Strategic Highway Safety Plan



## Lane Departure STRATEGIES

1. Keep vehicles on the roadway.
2. Reduce the potential for crashes when vehicles leave the roadway.
3. Reduce the severity of crashes that do occur when vehicles leave the roadway.
4. Support & enhance driver education & awareness programs.



**NCDOT**



**Session 1**

**1-10**



# North Carolina Strategic Highway Safety Plan

## Strategy 3:

**Reduce severity of crashes that do occur when vehicles leave the Roadway.**

### *Supporting Actions*

- Increase use of median barriers statewide. Cable barriers in particular provide a cost effective means of shielding the median and reducing severity of impacts.
- Shield motorists from trees, poles, or other fixed objects using guardrail or other barrier types.

# Real World Crashes



**NCDOT**



**Session 1**

**1-12**



# Real World Crashes



**NCDOT**



**Session 1**

**1-13**



# Need for Training

Potential consequences of poorly designed barrier systems include:

- Systems may not function as designed.
- Crash severities may be increased.





**NCDOT**



**Session 1**



**1-15**

**15**

# Need for Training

The next 9 slides show locations where barrier was installed. For each photo, decide at a glance whether you believe it to be:

1. Good example,
2. Bad example, or
3. Cannot decide without more information.

We will discuss these slides in further detail in later applicable sessions, so please record and save your responses.





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-17





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-18





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-19





**NCDOT**



## Session 1

1-20





**NCDOT**

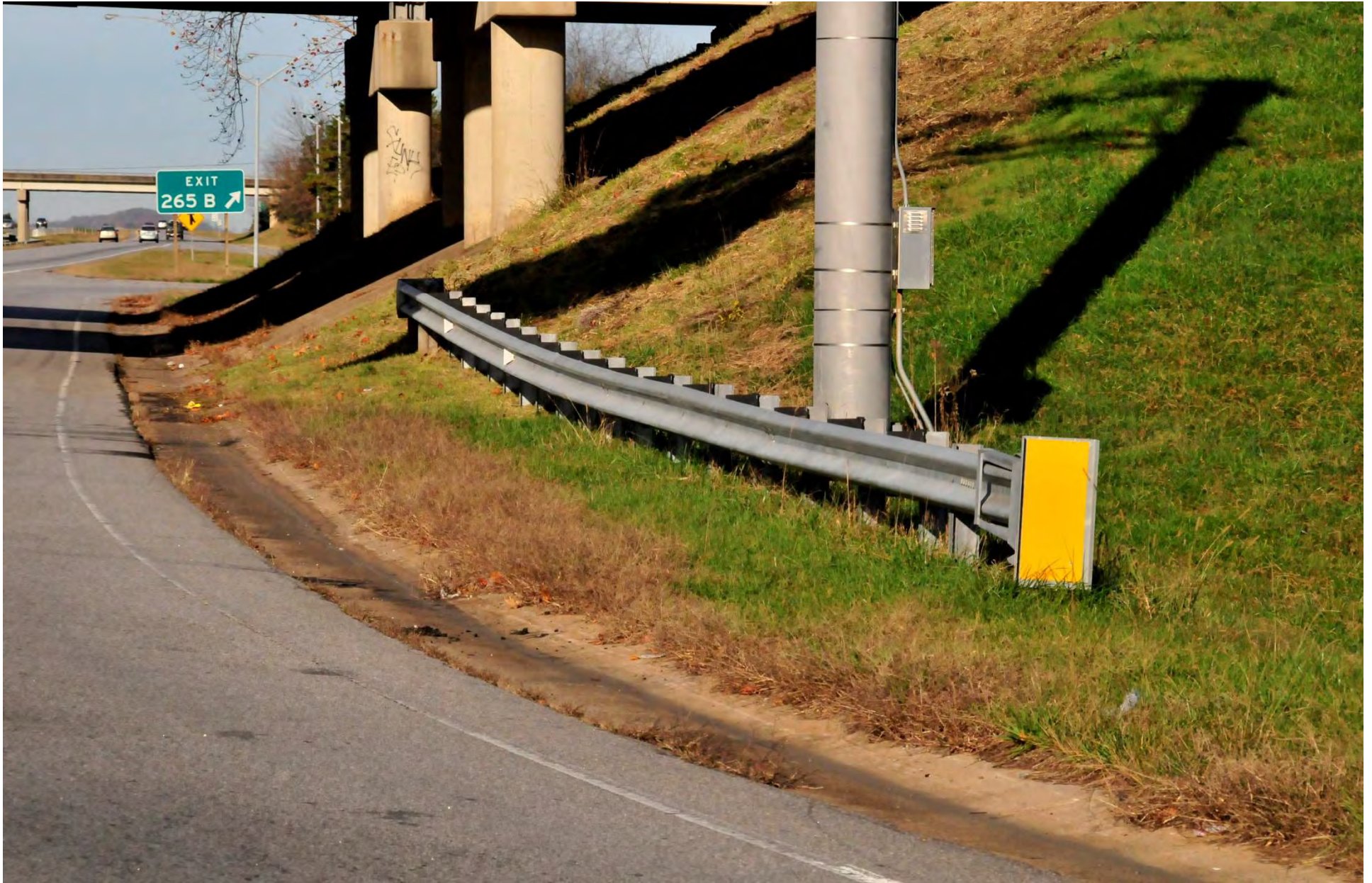


## Session 1



1-21





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-22





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-23





**NCDOT**



## Session 1

1-24





**NCDOT**



## Session 1



1-25



# Review Learning Outcomes

- Identify the primary Roadside Safety Concerns in North Carolina.
- Assess your current knowledge of Barrier Design Principles.

North Carolina Department of Transportation

# Highway Safety Barrier Design Training

## Session 2:

# Clear Zone and Guidelines for Barrier Need

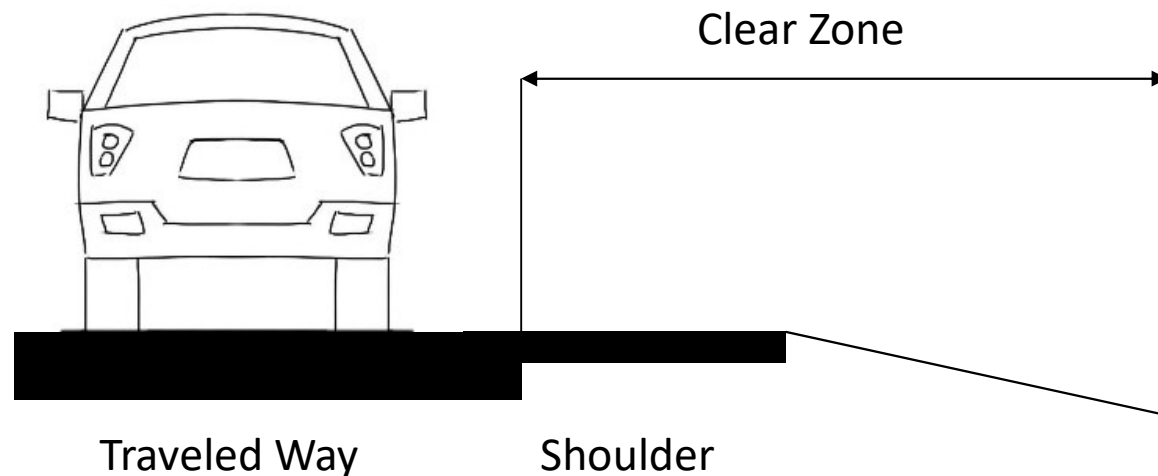


# Session 2 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Understand and apply the clear zone concept
- Identify objects and features that may require shielding

# Clear Zone: A Definition



The unobstructed, traversable area provided beyond the edge of the through traveled way for the recovery of errant vehicles. The clear zone includes shoulders, bike lanes, and auxiliary lanes, except those auxiliary lanes that function like through lanes.

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Glossary



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-3**



# Clear Zone Principle

**Get  
MAXIMUM,  
COST-EFFECTIVE  
width**



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-4**





**As Wide as Practical**



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-5**

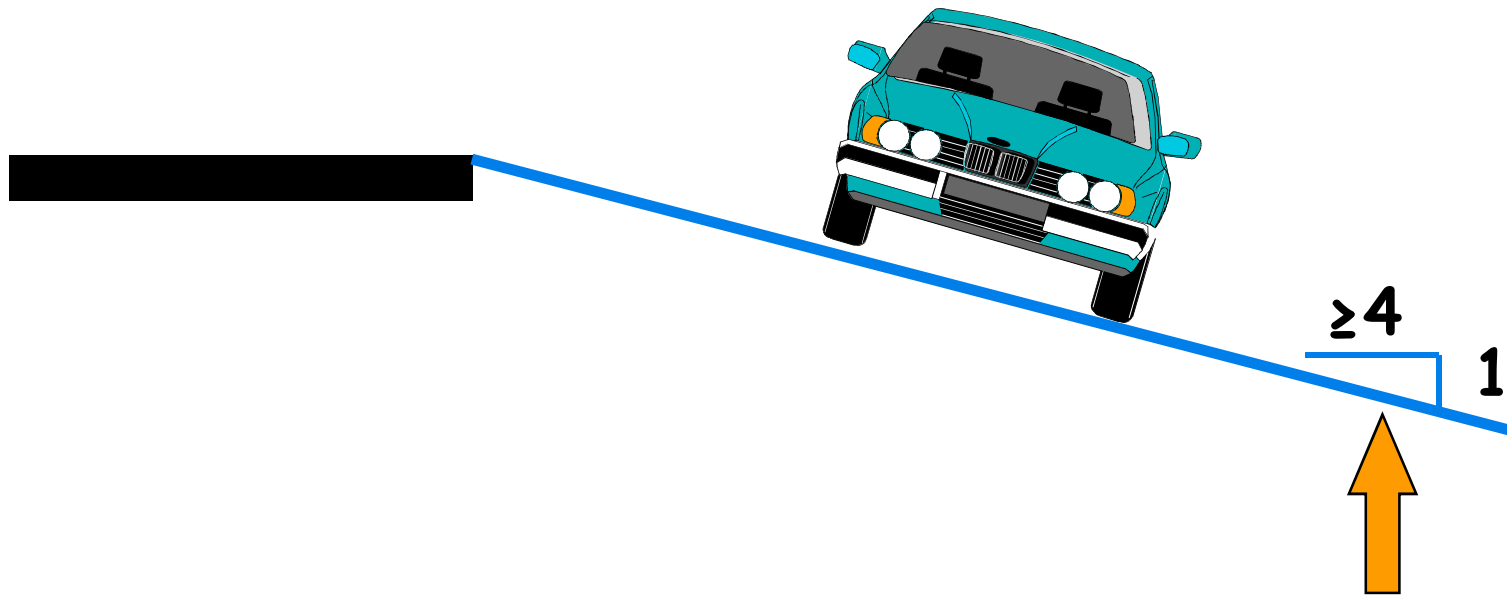


# Clear Zone Factors

- Slope Type and Steepness
- Design Speed
- Traffic Volume
- Horizontal Curvature



# Recoverable



**NCDOT**



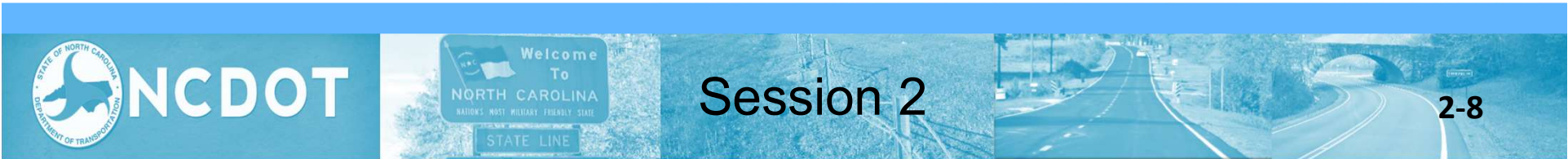
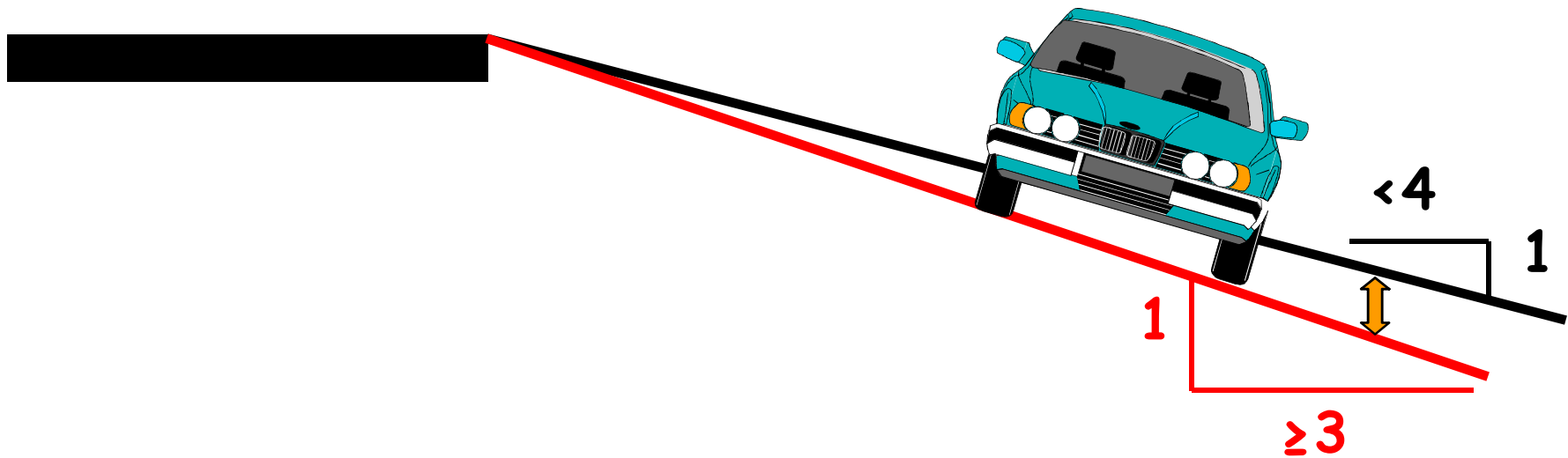
**Session 2**



**2-7**



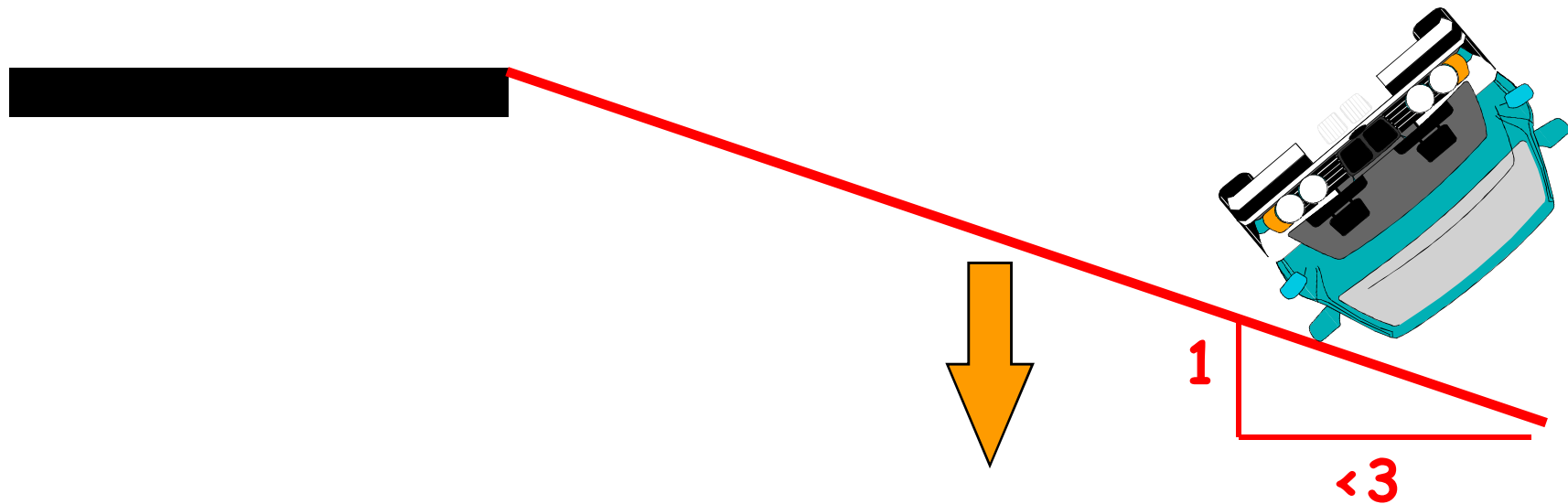
# Non-Recoverable (but Traversable)



# Session 2



# Critical



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-9**

# Clear Zone

THE "MAGIC"  
30 FEET



NCDOT



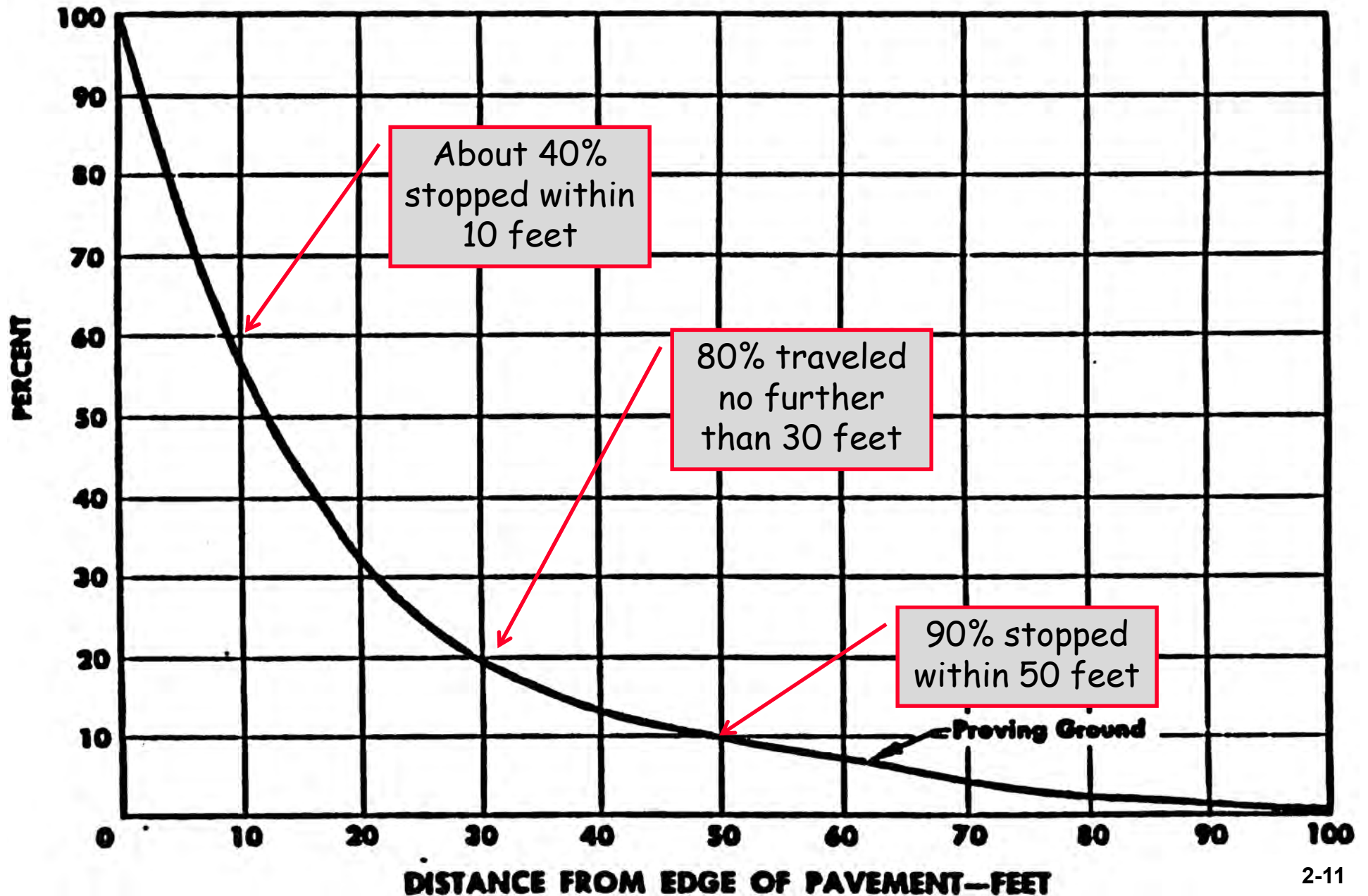
Session 2

2-10



# GM PROVING GROUND ACCIDENTS

211 CASES



# NCDOT Design Clear Zone Table

Design Speed	Design ADT	Foreslopes			Backslopes		
		1V:6H or flatter	1V:5H to 1V:4H	1V:3H	1V:3H	1V:5H to 1V:4H	1V:6H or flatter
40 mph or less	UNDER 750	7-10	7-10	**	7-10	7-10	7-10
	750-1500	10-12	12-14	**	10-12	10-12	10-12
	1500-6000	12-14	14-16	**	12-14	12-14	12-14
	OVER 6000	14-16	16-18	**	14-16	14-16	14-16
45-50 mph	UNDER 750	10-12	12-14	**	8-10	8-10	10-12
	750-1500	14-16	16-20	**	10-12	12-14	14-16
	1500-6000	16-18	20-26	**	12-14	14-16	16-18
	OVER 6000	20-22	24-28	**	14-16	18-20	20-22
55 mph	UNDER 750	12-14	14-18	**	8-10	10-12	10-12
	750-1500	16-18	20-24	**	10-12	14-16	16-18
	1500-6000	20-22	24-30	**	14-16	16-18	20-22
	OVER 6000	22-24*	26-32*	**	16-18	20-22	22-24
60 mph	UNDER 750	16-18	20-24	**	10-12	12-14	14-16
	750-1500	20-24	26-32*	**	12-14	16-18	20-22
	1500-6000	26-30	32-40*	**	14-18	18-22	24-26
	OVER 6000	30-32*	36-44*	**	20-22	24-26	26-28
65-70 mph	UNDER 750	18-20	20-26	**	10-12	14-16	14-16
	750-1500	24-26	28-36*	**	12-16	18-20	20-22
	1500-6000	28-32*	34-42*	**	16-20	22-24	26-28
	OVER 6000	30-34*	38-46*	**	22-24	26-30	28-30

\* Clear zone distances can be limited to 30 feet unless in a high accident rate areas

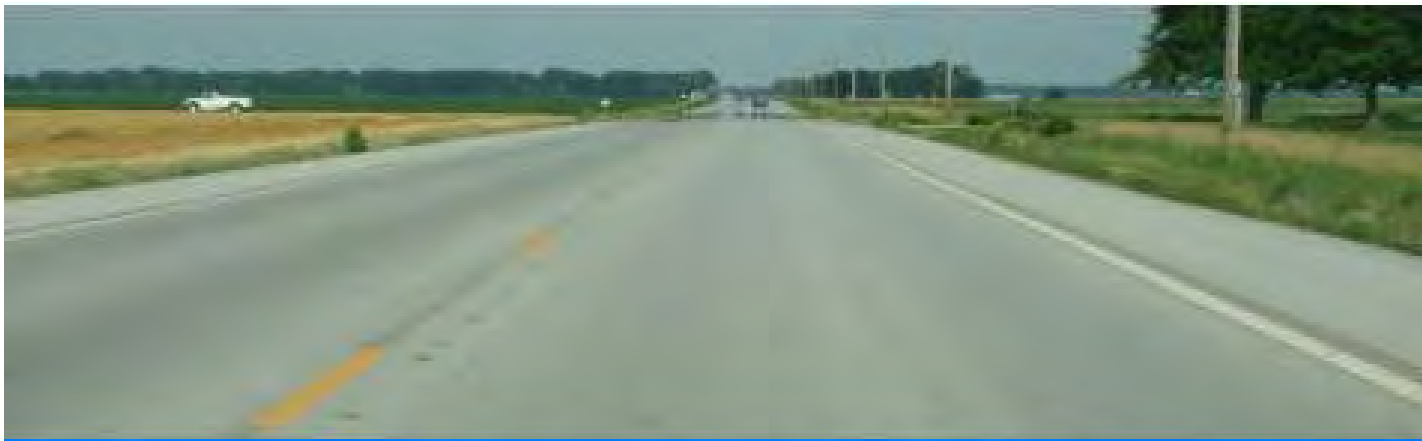
Ref: Roadway Design Manual, Part I. Clear Zone Distances, 1-4N



# Important Distinction

Available Clear Zone = Area Existing for recovery

Design Clear Zone = A selected value used for design to provide recovery area for a majority of errant drivers



**Do not compromise available clear zone**



**NCDOT**



Session 2

2-13

# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-14**



# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-15**



# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-16**



# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



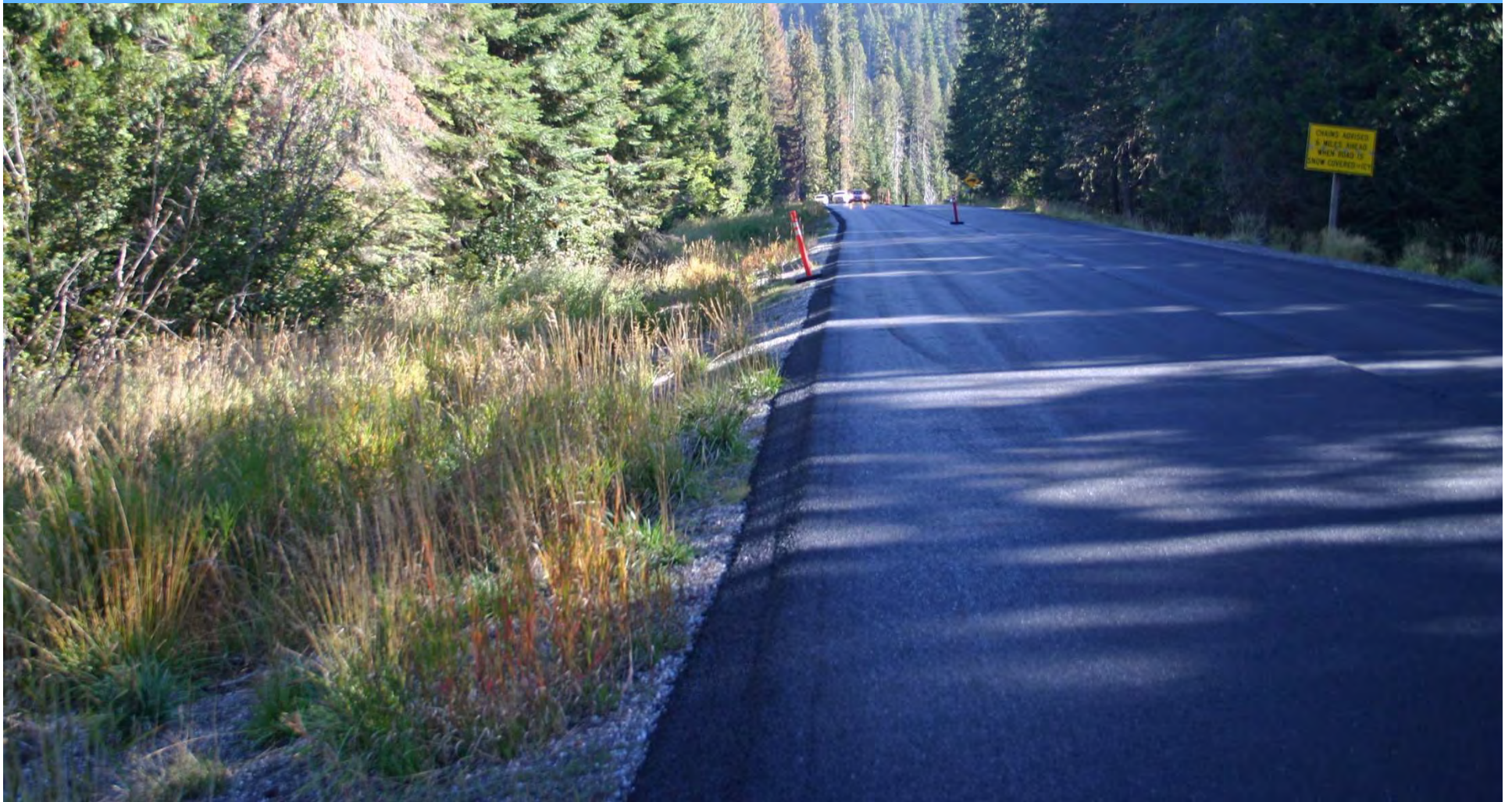
**Session 2**



**2-17**



# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



Session 2



2-18



# Example Clear Zones



**NCDOT**



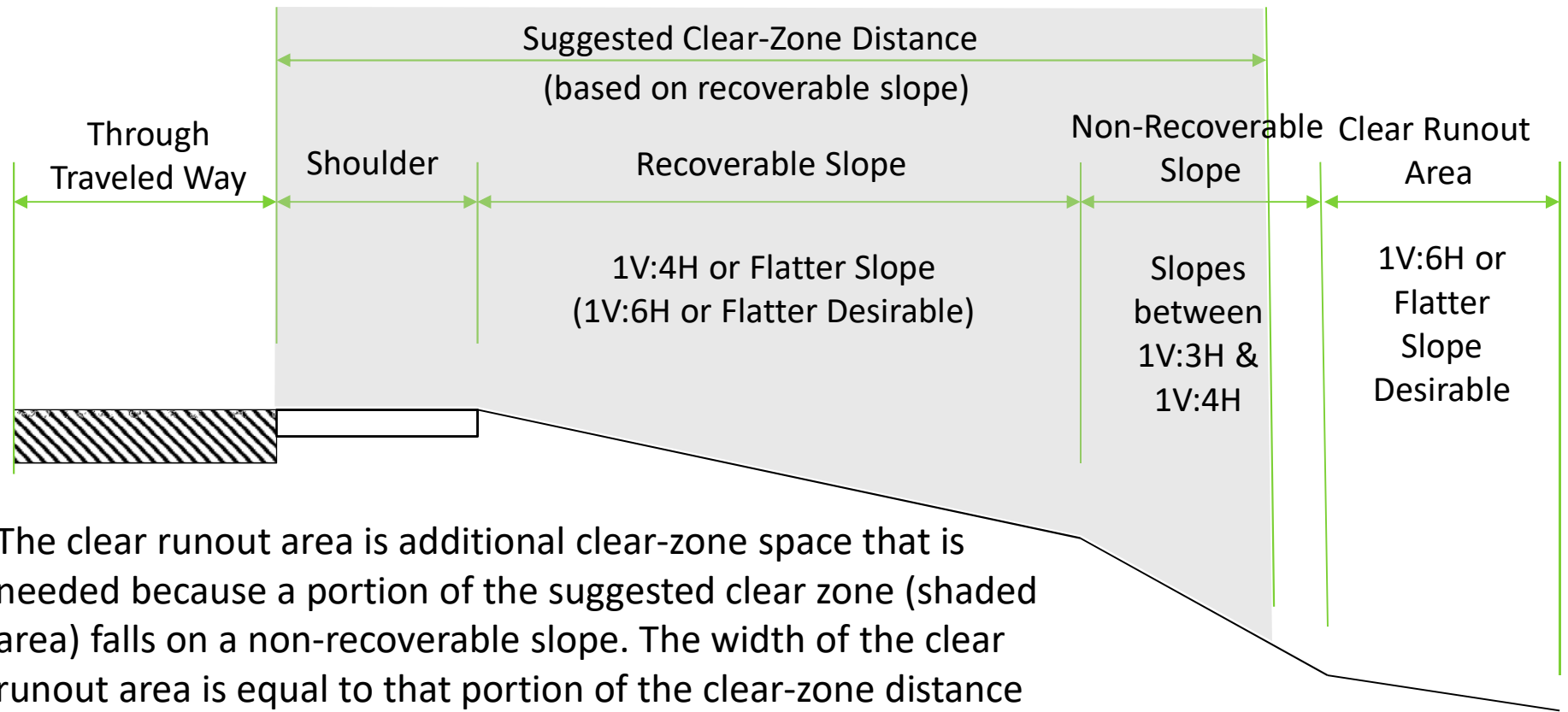
Session 2



2-19



# Clear Zone Adjustments for Non-uniform Slopes



The clear runout area is additional clear-zone space that is needed because a portion of the suggested clear zone (shaded area) falls on a non-recoverable slope. The width of the clear runout area is equal to that portion of the clear-zone distance that is located on the non-recoverable slope – min 10'.

**FIGURE 1**

**SIMILAR**

Ref: AASHTO Roadside

1-4M

F-1



**NCDOT**



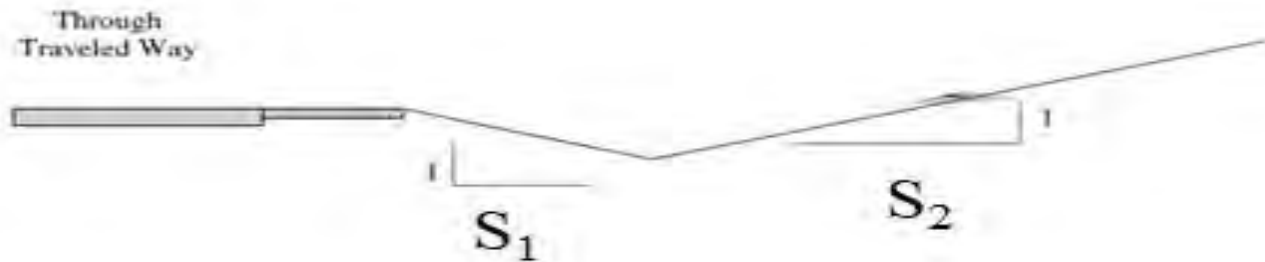
**Session 2**



2-20



# Clear Zone with a Ditch



- The combination of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  needs to fall within the preferred area of Figure 3.6 of the RDG for the clear zone to extend beyond the ditch bottom
- If the combination is outside and  $S_1$  is recoverable, the clear zone stops at the ditch bottom
- If  $S_1$  is not recoverable, the clear zone stops at the top of the  $S_1$  slope

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Figure 3.6, Pg. 3-9



**NCDOT**



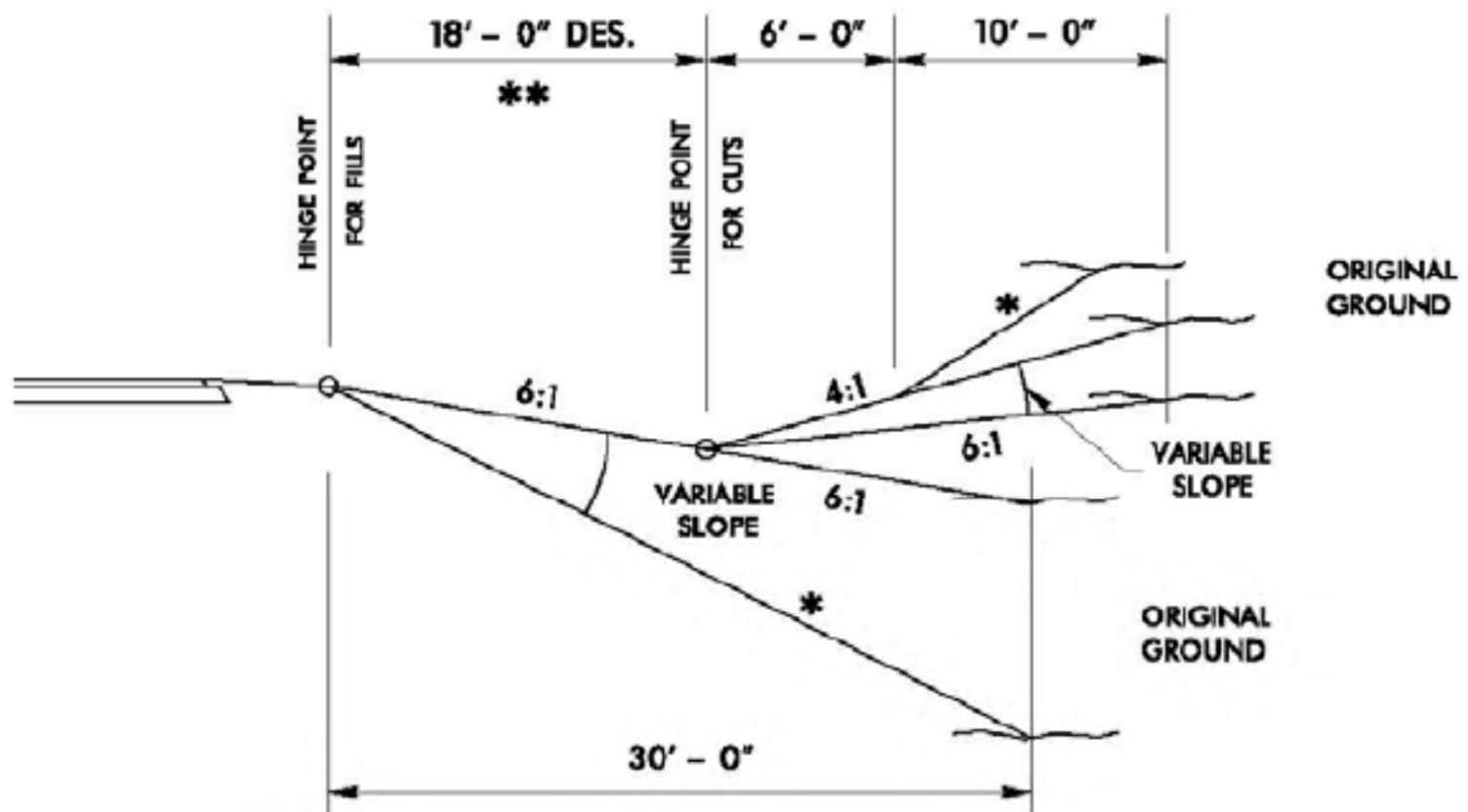
**Session 2**



**2-21**

# Clear Zone with a Ditch - NCDOT

(A) INTERSTATES, FREEWAYS, EXPRESSWAYS, OTHER FOUR LANE FACILITIES,  
ARTERIALS, COLLECTORS AND LOCALS (OVER 4000 ADT DESIGN YEAR TRAFFIC)



NCDOT



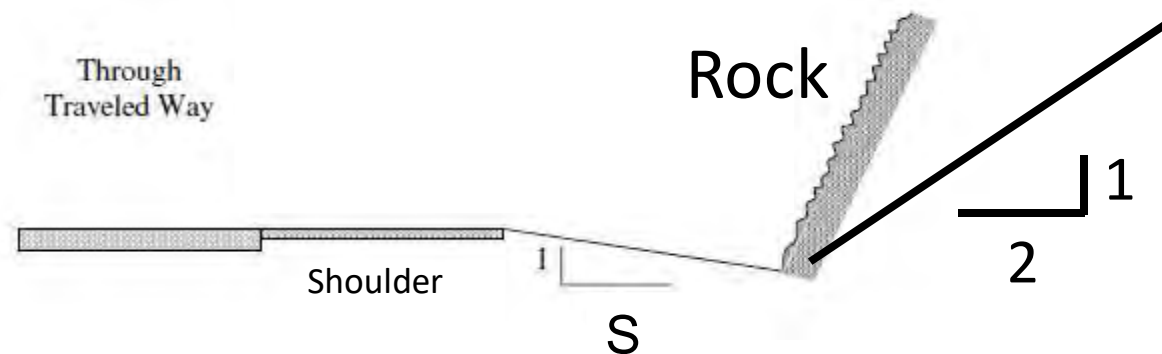
Session 2



2-22



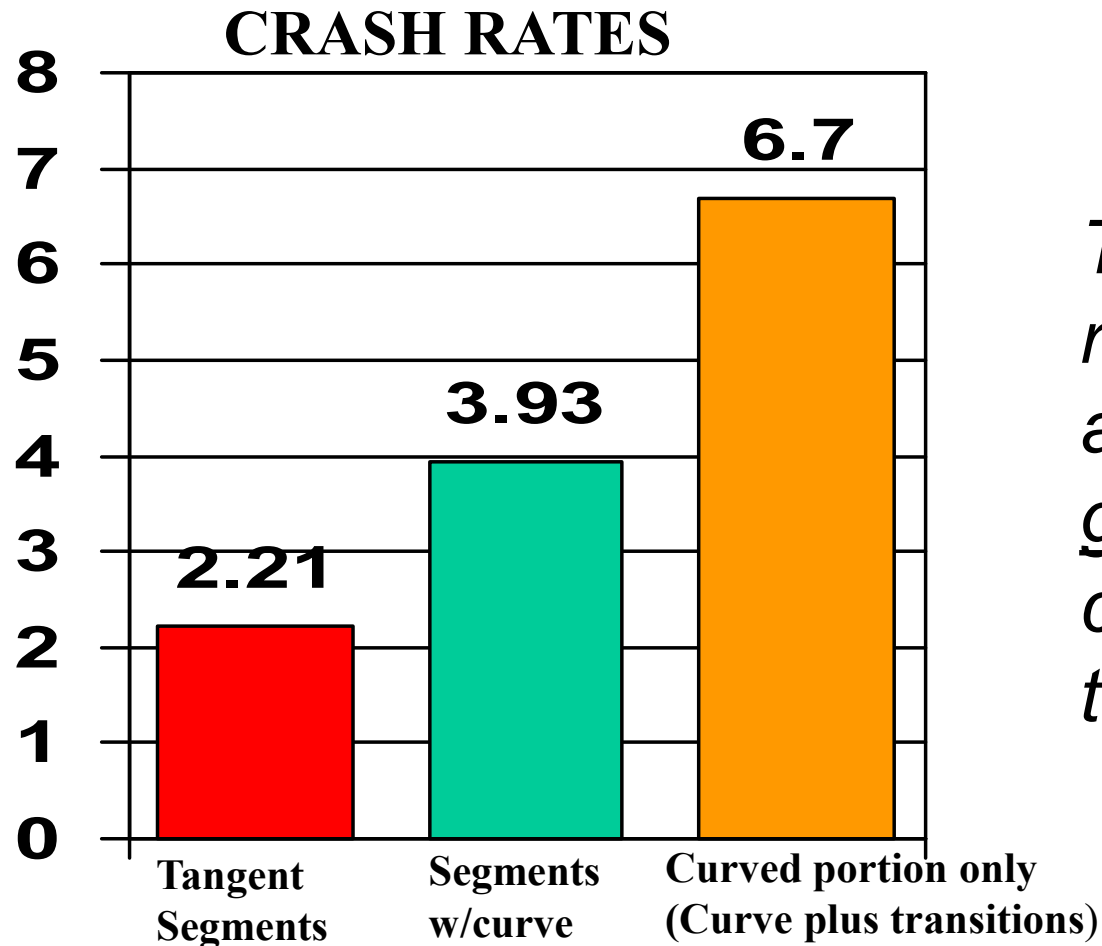
# Clear Zone with a steep Cut Slope



S ( $\geq 4$ ) Recoverable	<p>Clear Zone extends to the base of the cut.</p> <p>If this distance is less than the design clear zone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For a <b>smooth</b> rock cut – it can be considered a natural barrier. (Note a 2:1 smooth slope is not normally shielded)</li> <li>For a <b>jagged</b> rock cut – it is considered as any other significant obstacle within the design clear zone.</li> </ul>
S ( $< 4$ ) Non-Recoverable	Clear Zone ends at the edge of shoulder.

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Pg.3-24

# ....Curves Present Particular Safety Problems



*The risk of a reported crash is about three times greater on a curve than on a tangent*

Source: Glennon, et al, 1985 study for FHWA



**NCDOT**



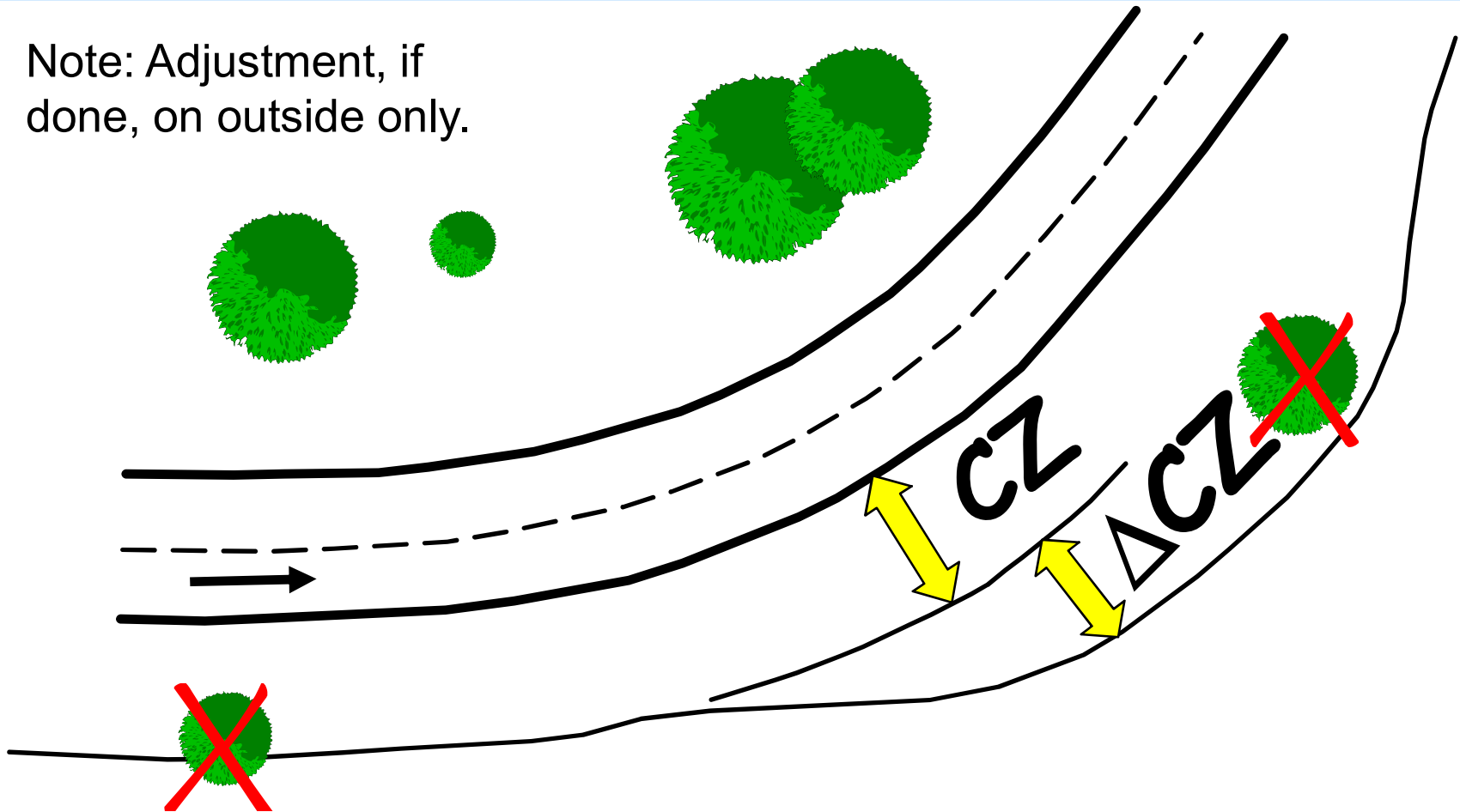
**Session 2**

**2-24**



# Horizontal Curves - AASHTO

Note: Adjustment, if done, on outside only.



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4th Edition, Pg. 3-3

# Horizontal Curve Adjustments

**$K_{CZ}$  (Curve Correction Factor)(U.S. Customary Units)**

Radius (ft)	Design Speed (mph)					
	40	45	50	55	65	70
2,950	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
2,300	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3
1,970	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4
1,640	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
1,475	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5
1,315	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	-
1,150	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	-
985	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	-
820	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	-	-
660	1.3	1.4	1.5	-	-	-
495	1.4	1.5	-	-	-	-
330	1.5	-	-	-	-	-

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4th Edition, Table 3-2.Pg. 3-4



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-26**



# Horizontal Curves - NCDOT

The Roadside Design Guide states: “The designer **may** choose to modify...”. Again, not normally done unless crash history indicates a problem.

Need approval by Roadway Design Unit

**Remember - As Wide as Practical**

# Clear Zone and Curbs

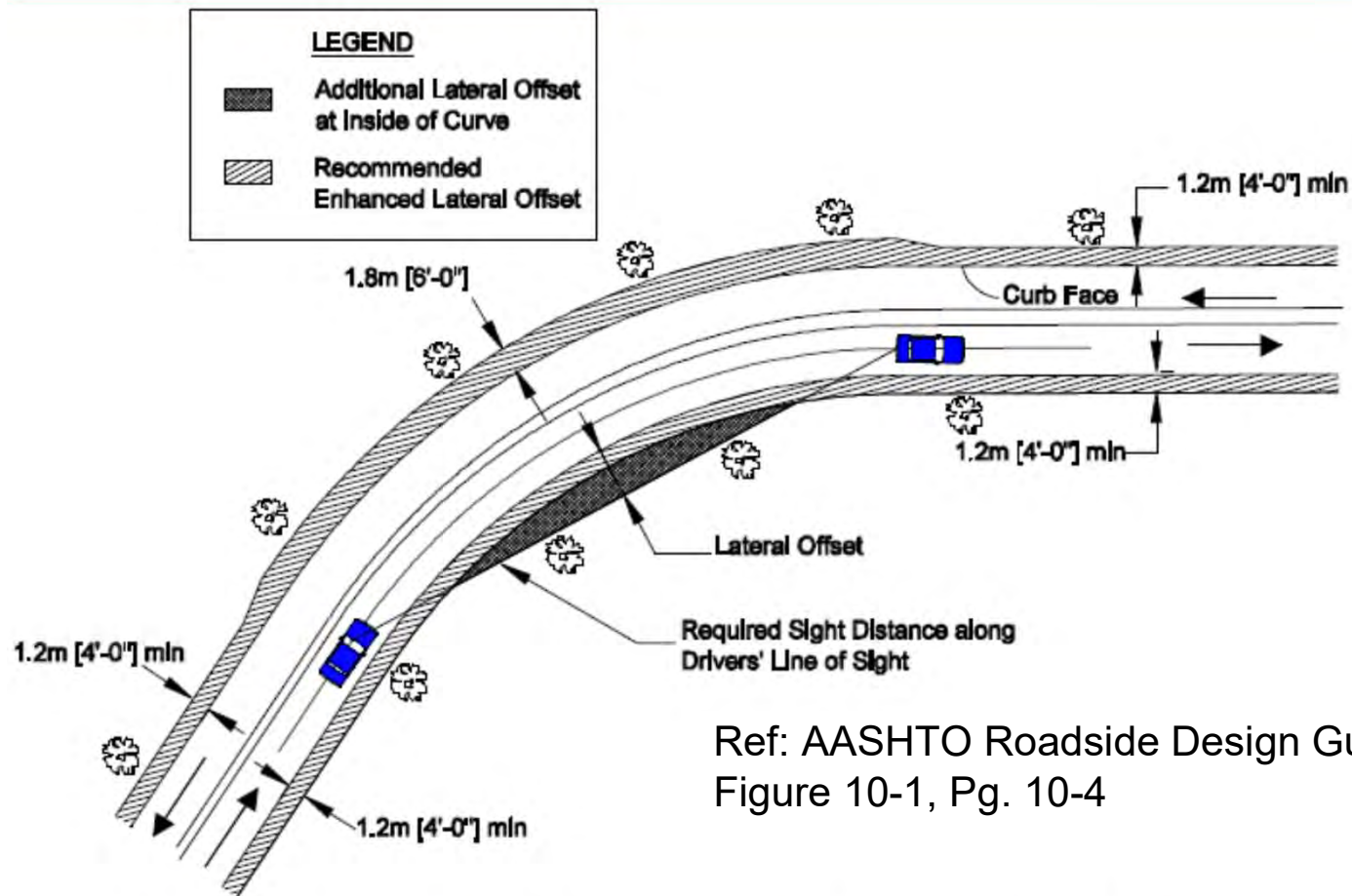
The minimum lateral offset of 1.5 ft should be provided beyond the face of curbs to any vertical objects.

This is called the Lateral Offset and **should not be construed as an acceptable clear zone distance.**

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, Section 10.2.1.1 Curbs



# Clear Zone in an Urban Area



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Figure 10-1, Pg. 10-4

Figure 10-1. Lateral Offset for Objects at Horizontal Curves on Curbed Facilities



NCDOT



Session 2

2-29

# Order of Preference

1. Remove hazard
2. Redesign hazard (make traversable)
3. Relocate hazard (move away from traffic)
4. Reduce Impact Severity ( use breakaway design)
5. SHIELD hazard
6. Delineate hazard so motorist can avoid

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Pg. 1-4





# Barriers Must Be Less of a Hazard



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**



**2-31**





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-32



# AASHTO Barrier Warrants

Obstacle	Guidelines
Bridge piers, abutments, and railing ends	Shielding generally required
Boulders	Judgment decision based on nature of fixed object and likelihood of impact
Culverts, pipes, headwalls	Judgment decision based on size, shape and location of obstacle
Foreslopes and backslopes (smooth)	Shielding not generally required
Foreslopes and backslopes (rough)	Judgment decision based on likelihood of impact
Ditches (parallel)	Refer to Figures 3-6 and 3-7
Ditches (transverse)	Shielding generally required if likelihood of head-on impact is high
Embankment	Judgment decision based on fill height and slope (see Figure 5-1)
Retaining Walls	Judgment decision based on relative smoothness of wall and anticipated maximum angle of impact
Sign/Luminaire supports	Shielding generally required for non-breakaway supports
Traffic signal supports	Isolated traffic signals within clear zone on high-speed rural facilities may warrant shielding
Trees	Judgment decision based on site-specific circumstances
Utility poles	Shielding may be needed on a case by case basis.
Permanent bodies of water	Judgment decision based on location and depth of water and likelihood of encroachment.

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Chapter 5 Table 5-2, Pg. 5-9



Session 2



2-33

# NCDOT Guidance

## ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

## PART 1

### CHAPTER THREE

#### GUARDRAIL, BARRIERS AND ATTENUATORS

##### GUARDRAIL WARRANTS

3-1

Warrants for guardrail are to be in accordance with the "Roadside Design Guide" and with the guardrail warrant curves included in this Chapter.

In the preliminary design stage, the designer will establish the location and grade of the project so as to eliminate as much guardrail as possible using these warrants.

After location data is received, plans plotted, grades set, and initial templates determined, the following procedures should be followed:

- (1) Determine Guardrail Locations
  - (a) Is guardrail warranted in accordance with Figure 1 in this Chapter? If not required, go to (c). If required, go to (b).
  - (b) Is guardrail required in accordance with Figures 4 through 6 of this Chapter? If not required, go to (c).
  - (c) Is guardrail warranted in accordance with Table 2 and 3 in this Chapter? Refer to Sheet 1-4M and 1-4N in Chapter 1 of this manual.
- (2) Can Guardrail be eliminated?





**NCDOT**



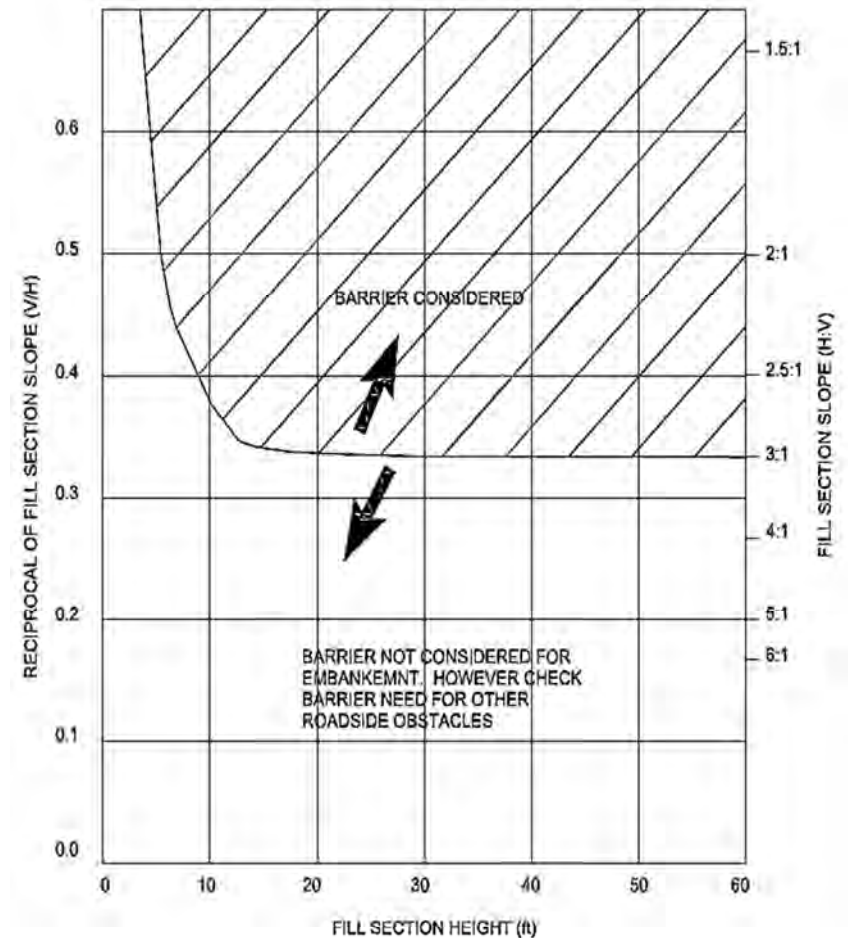
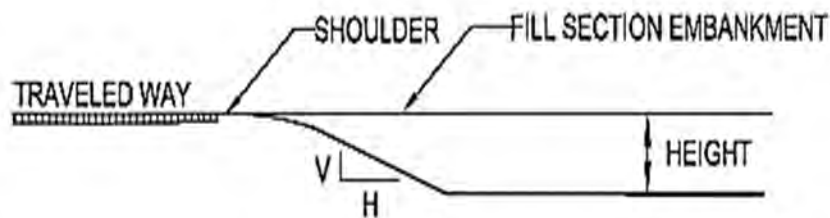
## Session 2



2-35



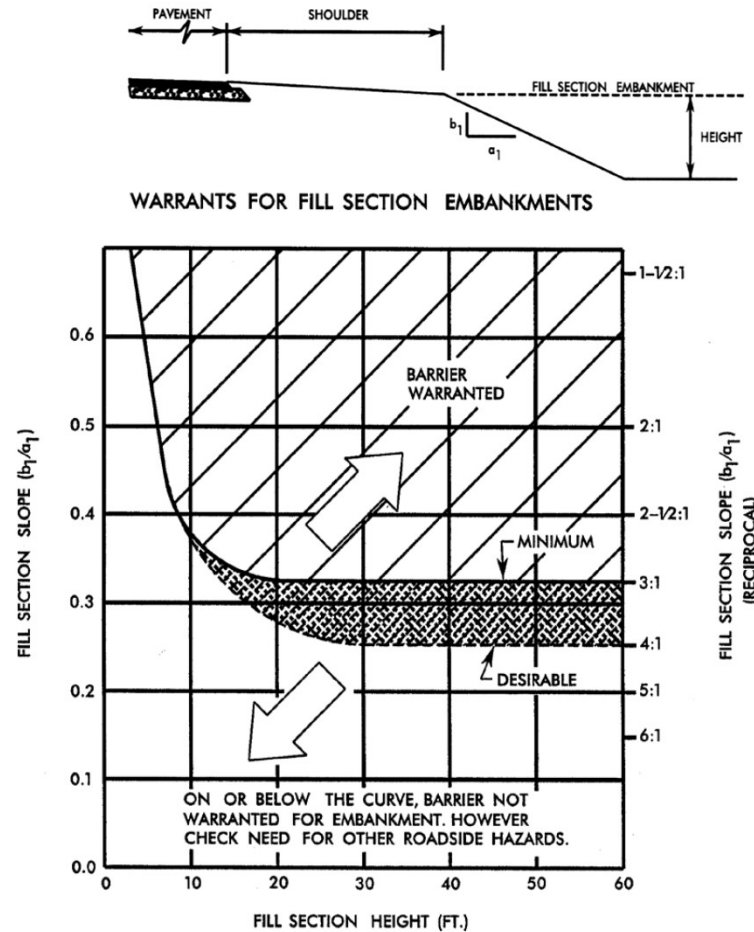
# Embankment Guidelines



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Figure 5.1b, Pg. 5-6



# NC Embankment Warrants



Ref: NCDOT Roadway Design Manual, Part 1, Chapter 3



NCDOT

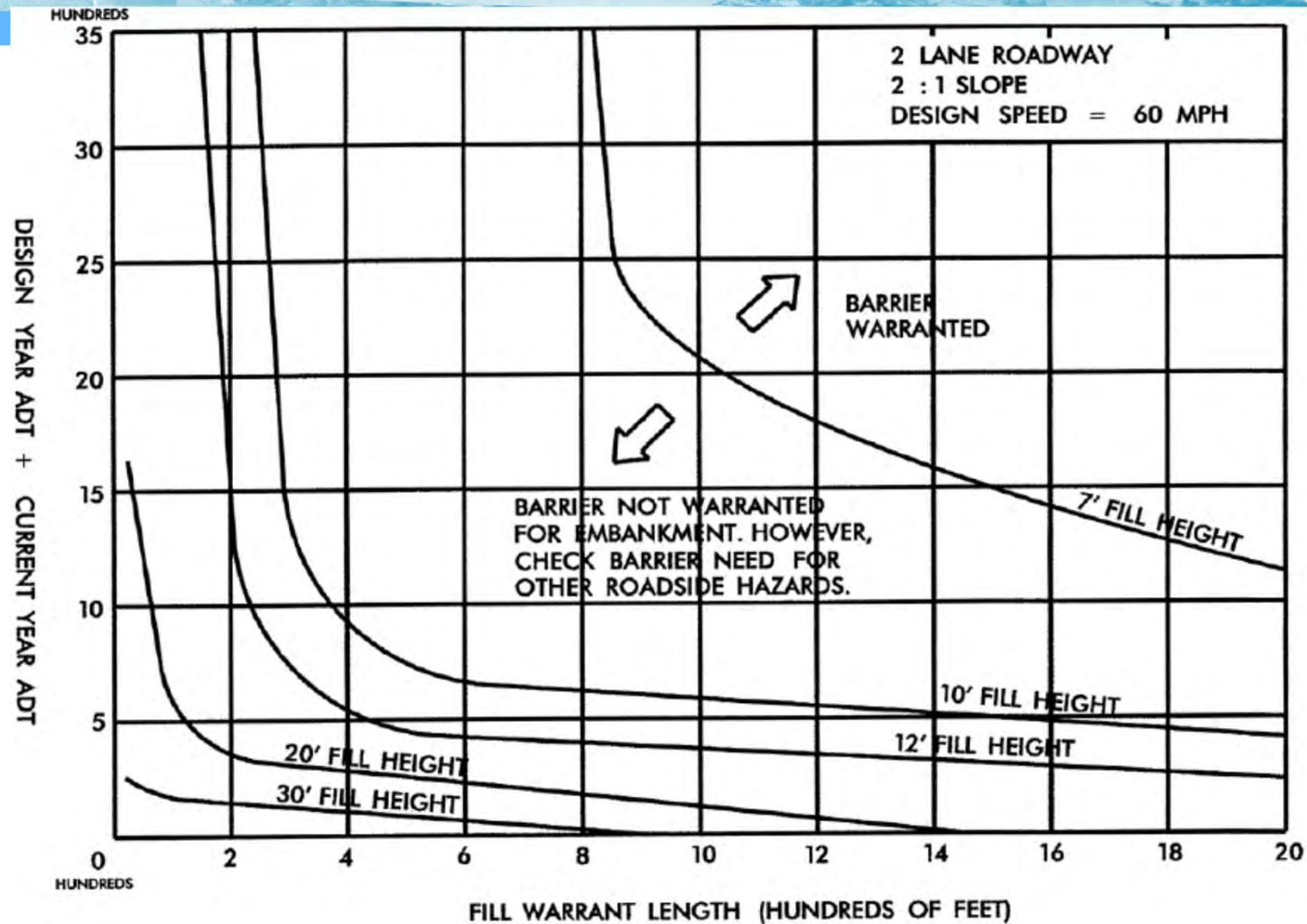


Session 2



2-37

# Modified Embankment Warrants



Ref: NCDOT Roadway Design Manual, Part 1, Chapter 3, Figure 5





Is barrier warranted at the locations shown in the next eight photos?

Do not consider effectiveness of existing barrier (if any).



**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-40





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-41





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-42





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-43





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-44





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-45





**NCDOT**



## Session 2



2-46





**NCDOT**



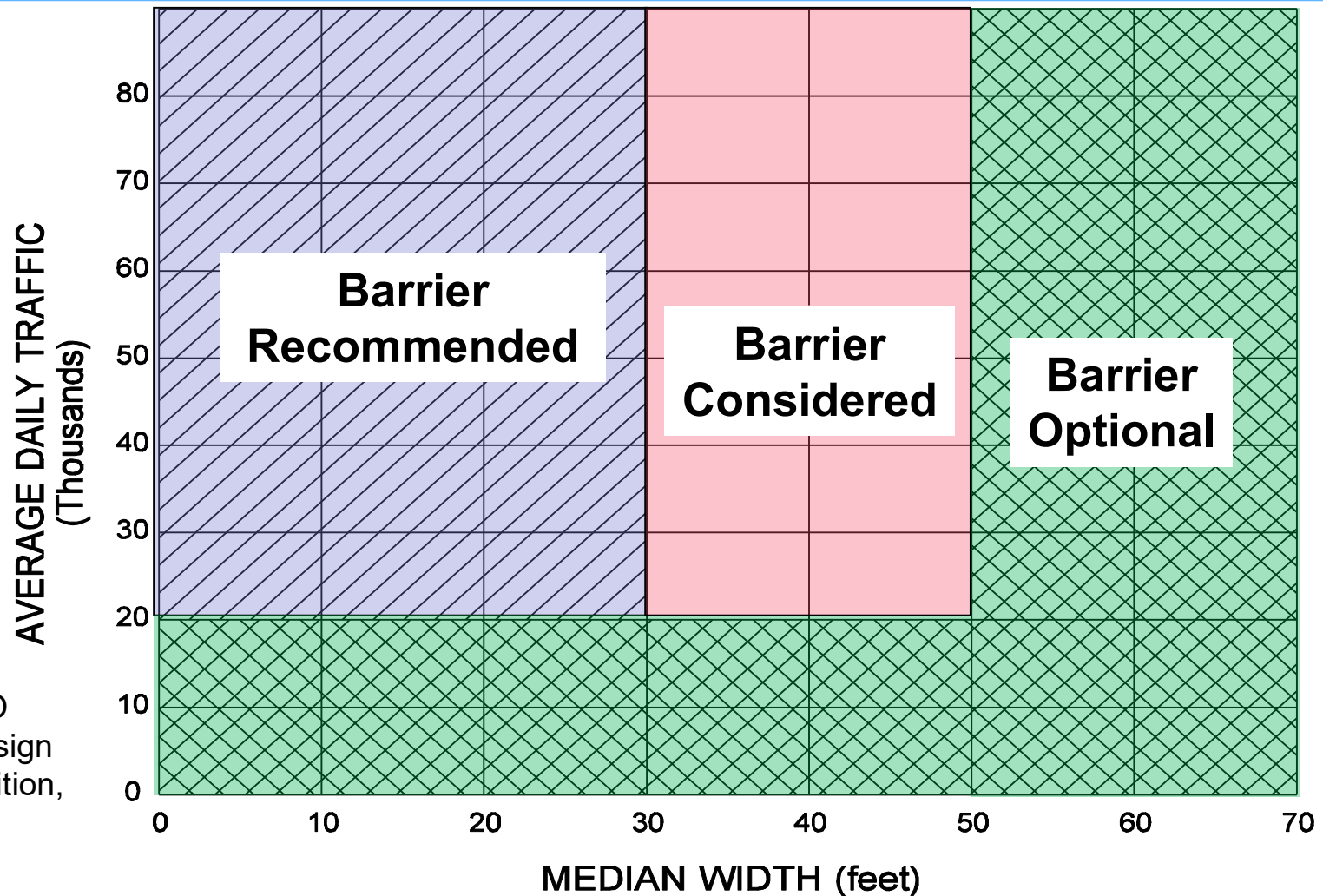
## Session 2



2-47



# Median Width Guidelines - AASHTO



Ref: AASHTO  
Roadside Design  
Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition,  
Figure 6-1



# Median Width Guidelines - NCDOT

ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

PART 1

GUARDRAIL / GUIDERAIL TREATMENT IN MEDIAN LOCATIONS

3-6

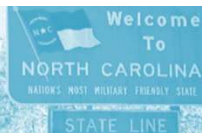
## **Guidelines for typical Median Guardrail / Guiderail Installations:**

Incorporate median guardrail / guiderail on all freeway projects with median widths of 70 feet or less.

Two types of installations will be used: Cable guiderail or steel beam guardrail with 6'- 3" post spacing (semi-rigid guardrail).



**NCDOT**



**Session 2**

**2-49**



# Review Learning Outcomes

- Understand and apply the clear zone concept
- Identify objects and features that may require shielding



North Carolina Department of Transportation

# Highway Safety Barrier Design Training

## Session 3:

# Testing Requirements and Performance Characteristics of Common Barrier Systems



**NCDOT**



Session 3

3-1



# Session 3 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Understand how barriers are tested for crashworthiness
- Identify common barrier systems
- Explain how these barrier systems function
- Define the key components of a transition design



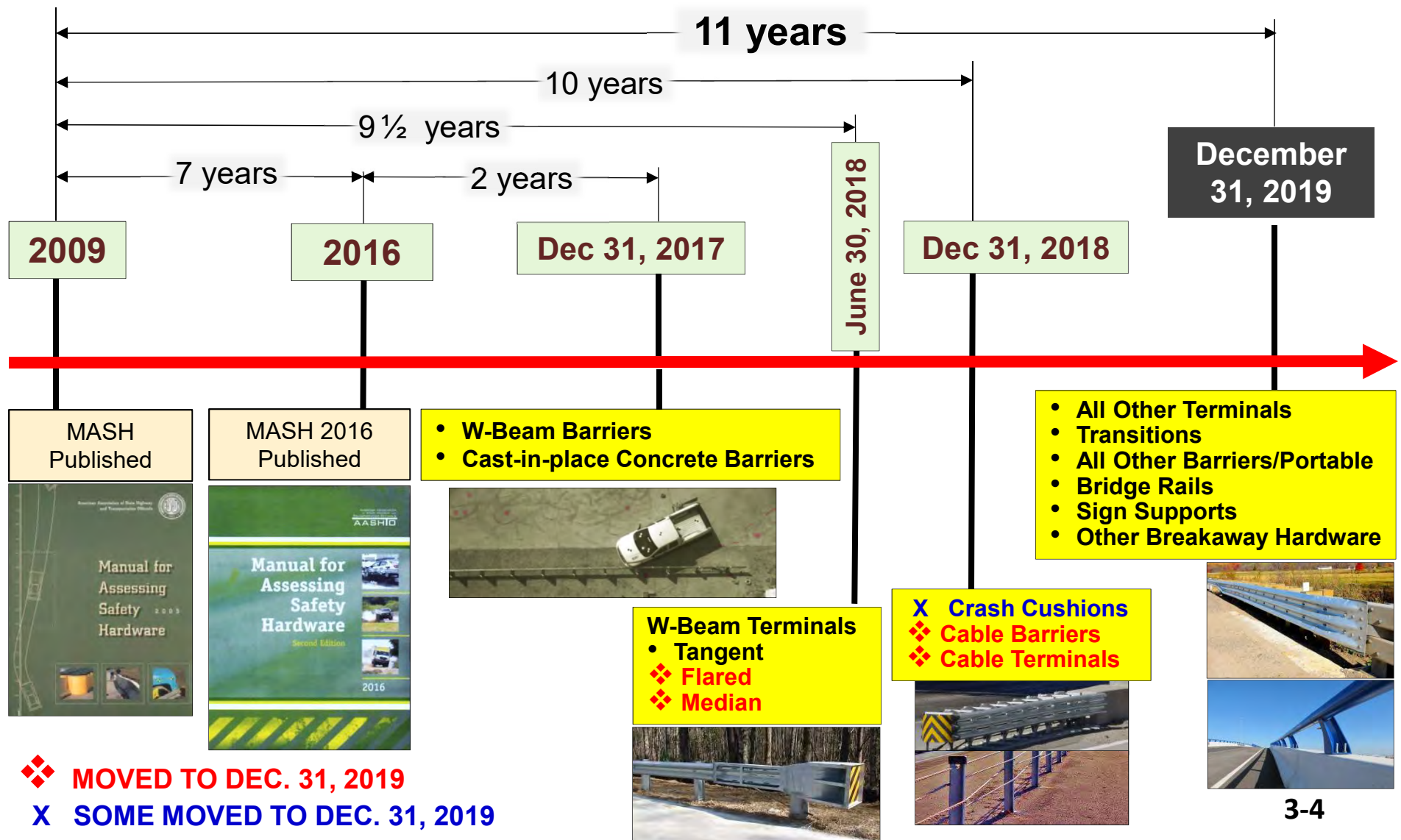
# Crash Testing Guidelines

- In 1993, crash testing and evaluation criteria were published as NCHRP Report 350
- In 2009, the Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) was published by AASHTO. It was used by FHWA as the testing standard for all new products
- In 2016, an update to MASH was adopted and a timetable for implementation of new installations complying with this edition was signed between FHWA and AASHTO



# MASH Implementation Timeline

(AASHTO/FHWA Joint MASH Implementation Agreement Issued January 7, 2016)



# MASH Test Conditions

Selection of a performance level is based on speed and traffic mix.

- **TL-1, TL-2, and TL-3:** crash tests with small car and pickup truck with a 25° impact angle at 31, 44, and 62 mph, respectively.



2,420 lbs.  
1100C



5,000 lbs.  
2270P



**NCDOT**

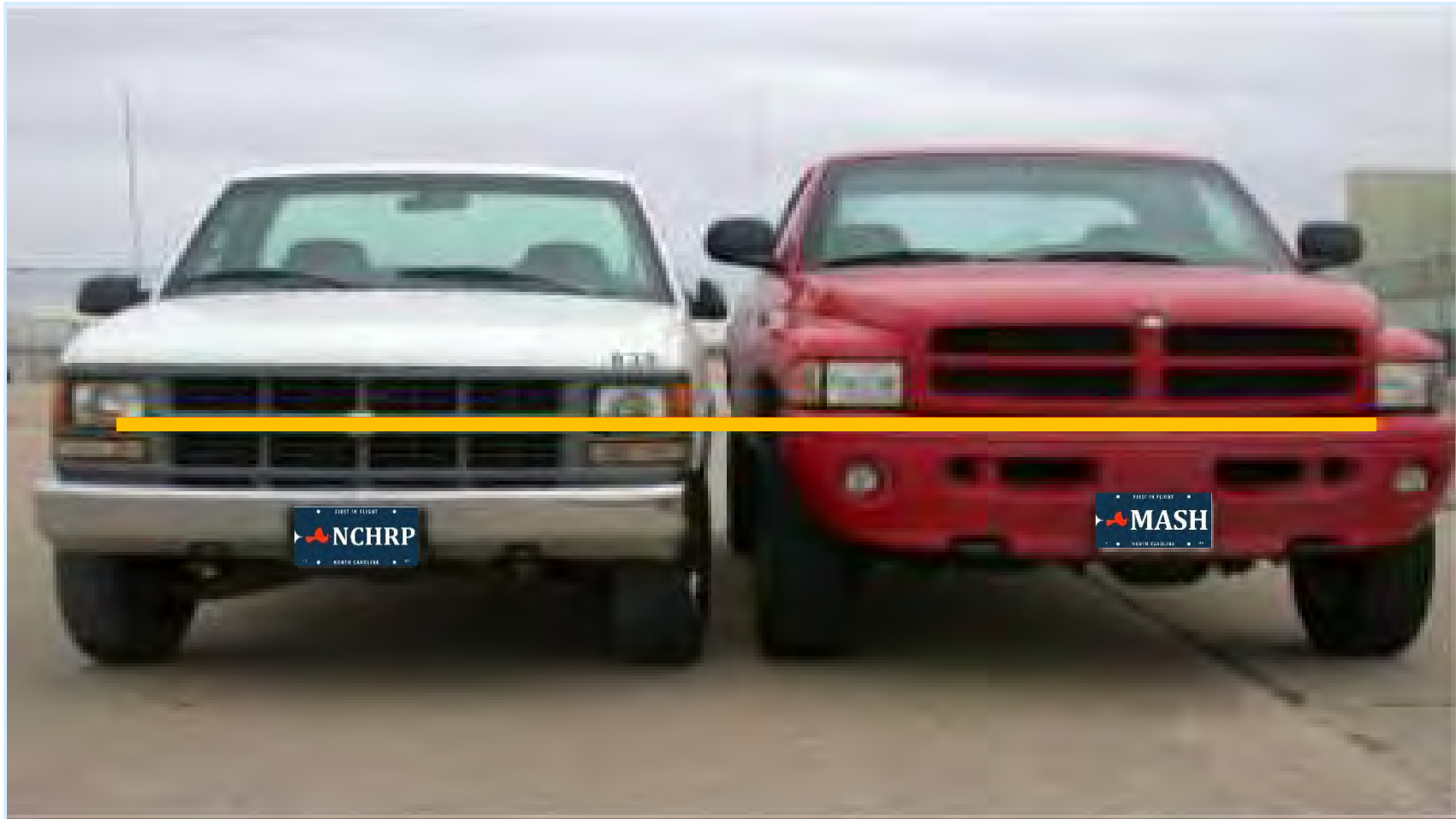


Session 3

3-5



# NCHRP 350 comparison with MASH Crew Cab Truck



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**Session 3**



**3-6**

# MASH Test Conditions (cont'd)

- **TL- 4:** TL-3 + 15° impact angle, 56 mph Single-Unit Truck
- **TL- 5:** TL-3 + 15° impact angle, 50 mph Tractor-Van Trailer
- **TL- 6:** TL-3 + 15° impact angle, 50 mph Tractor-Tank Trailer



22,000 lbs.



80,000 lbs.



80,000 lbs.



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**Session 3**

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# Functional Requirement of Barrier

1. Contain Vehicle
  - No Penetration
  - No Vaulting/Under-riding
2. Redirect Vehicle Smoothly (low exit angle) with no snagging/overturning, and no excessive rotation (75 degree max)
3. Tolerable Occupant Impact Forces
4. Minimum Occupant Compartment Deformation and no Debris Intrusion

# Standard Barrier Systems

- Rigid Systems
- Semi-Rigid Systems
- Flexible Systems
- Median Barrier Systems



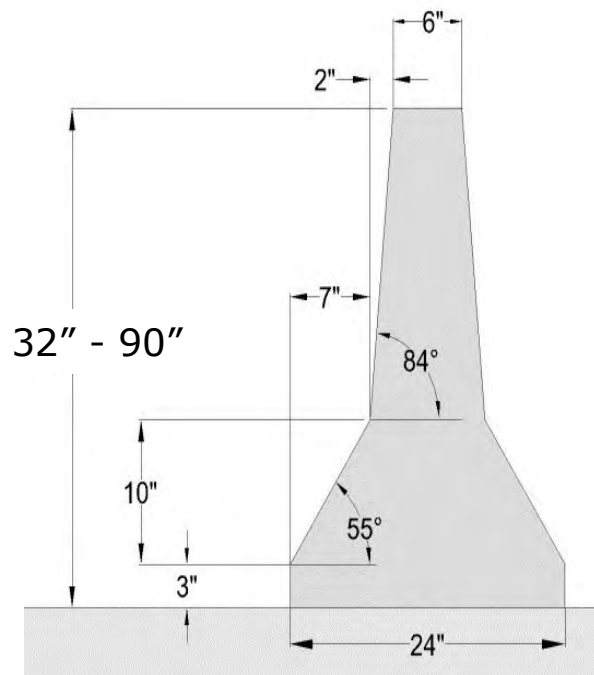
# Barrier Systems: Rigid Barriers

Rigid Barrier Systems have little (between 0 to 1 ft.) deflection under the TL-3 pickup impact. They are generally anchored by some acceptable means.

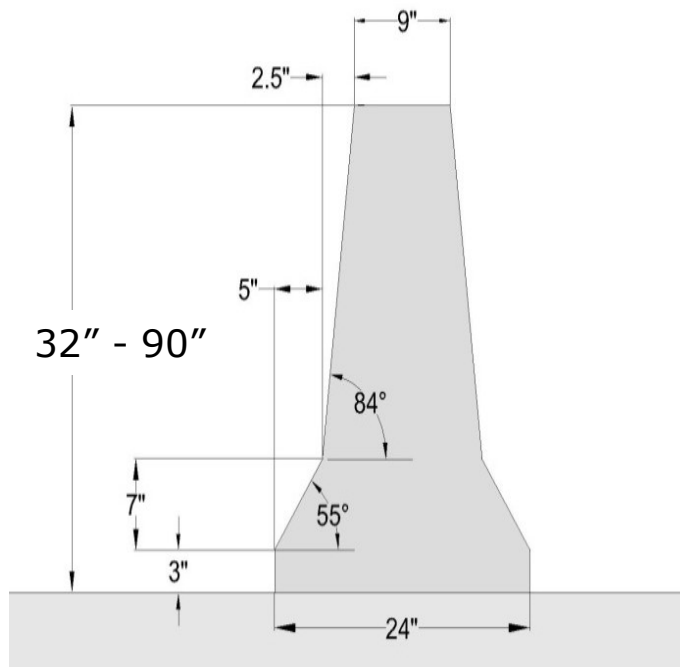
Examples include:

- New Jersey Safety Shape Concrete Barrier
- F-shape Concrete Barrier
- Single or Slope Concrete Barrier
- Vertical Wall

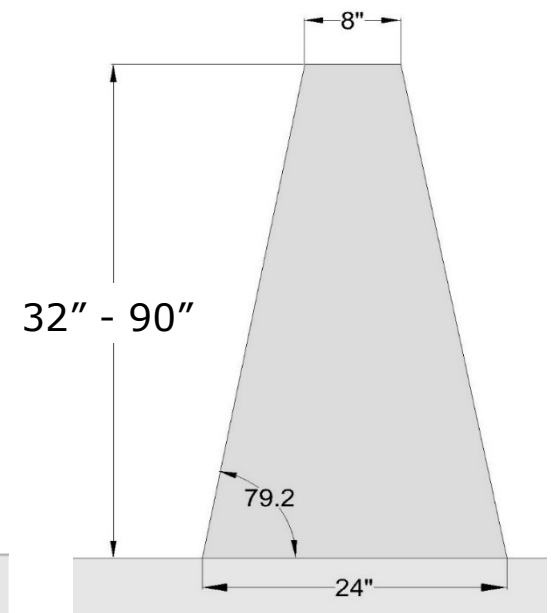
# Rigid Barrier



New Jersey Shape



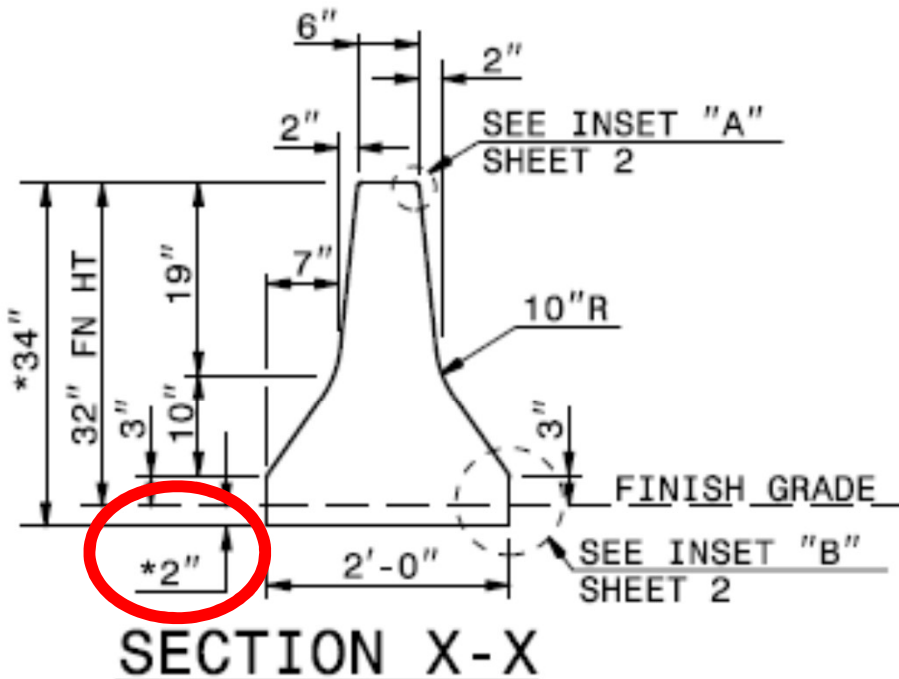
F-Shape



Single Shape



# Rigid Barrier – New Jersey Shape



Type IV typically used

Types II & III for  
bifurcated cross-  
sections

2" min Embedment  
minimizes Deflection

When large trucks are  
not an issue

TYPE IV - NO GLARE SCREEN PERMITTED

SHEET 1 OF 4 854.01	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>DOUBLE FACED CONCRETE BARRIER</b> TYPES I, II, III & IV	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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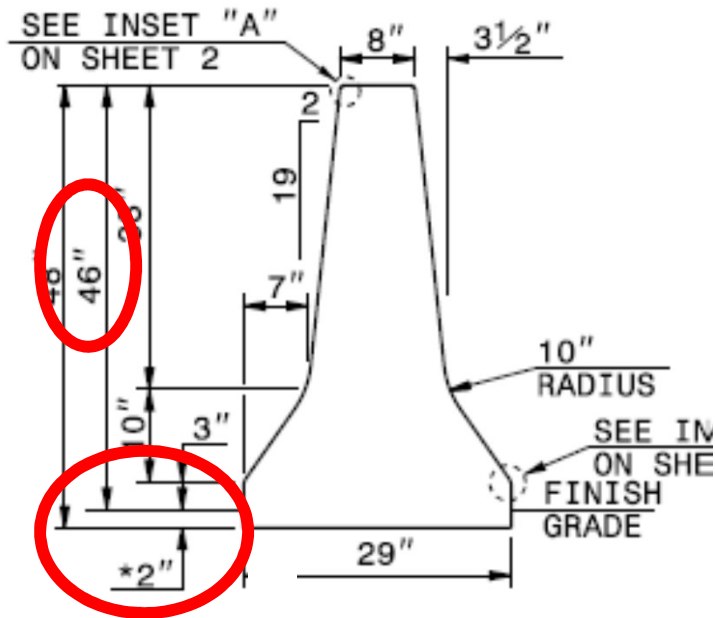
NCDOT



Session 3

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# Rigid Barrier – New Jersey Shape



2" min Embedment  
minimizes Deflection

Considered TL- 5

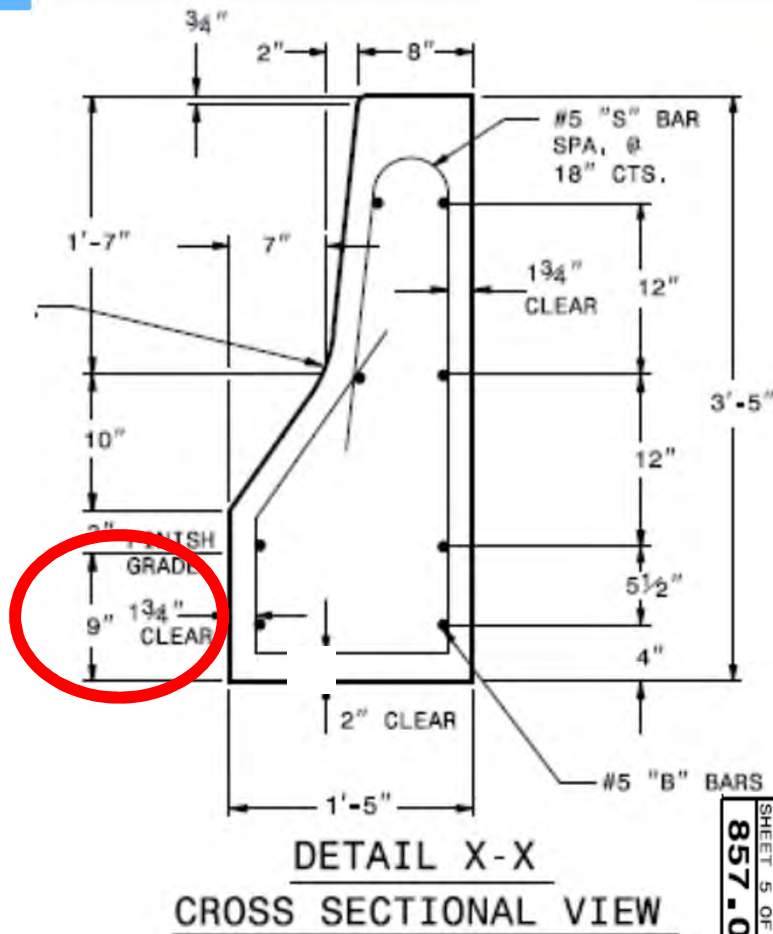
For use when conditions  
warrant (typical urban,  
high truck volume)

SECTION X-X  
**TYPE - T**

854.02 SHEET 1 OF 4	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>DOUBLE FACED CONCRETE BARRIER</b> TYPE T, T1 AND T2	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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# Rigid Barrier – New Jersey Shape



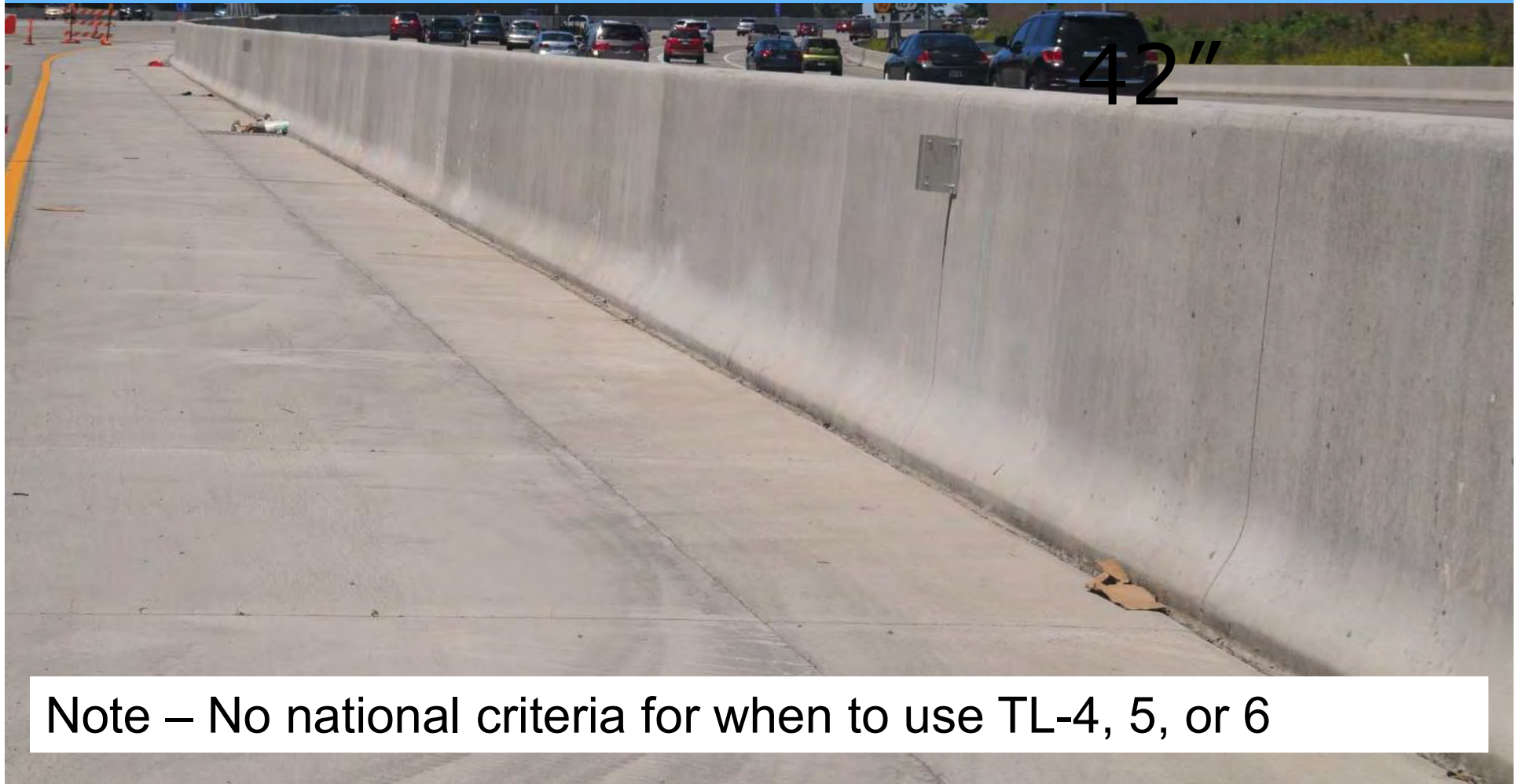
9" min Provides Fixity

SHEET 5 OF 8 857.01	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>PRECAST REINFORCED CONCRETE BARRIER</b> 41" SINGLE FACED	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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# MASH Testing of 32" New Jersey Shaped Concrete Barrier



# Rigid Barrier



Note – No national criteria for when to use TL-4, 5, or 6



# Rigid Barrier: TL-5



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**Session 3**

**3-17**





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## Session 3



**3-18**



# Zone of Intrusion

Zone of Intrusion (ZOI) - the region measured above and behind the face of a barrier system where an impacting vehicle or any major part of the system may extend during an impact.

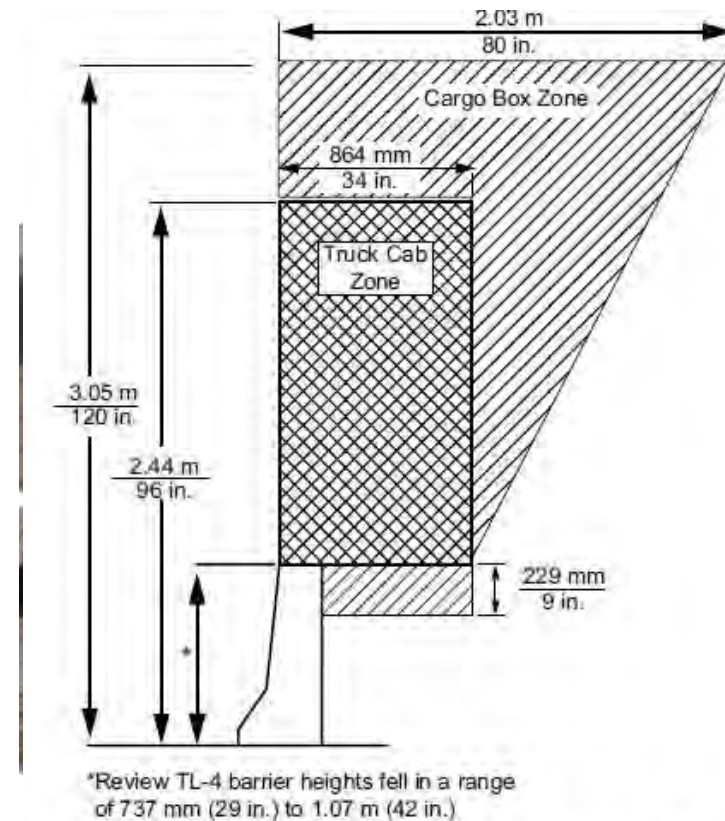


Figure 5-31. Zone of Intrusion for TL-4 Barriers per NCHRP Report 350



# AASHTO LRFD Bridge Specification (7th Edition)

## 3.6.5.1

Where the design choice is to redirect or absorb the collision load, protection shall consist of one of the following:

- An embankment;
- A structurally independent, crashworthy ground-mounted 54.0-in. high barrier, located within 10.0 ft from the component being protected; or
- A 42.0-in. high barrier located at more than 10.0 ft from the component being protected.

Such barrier shall be structurally and geometrically capable of surviving the crash test for Test Level 5, as specified in Section 13.



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Session 3

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# Barrier Systems: Semi-Rigid

Semi-Rigid Barrier Systems have deflections of a few feet (between 2 to 5 ft.) under the TL-3 pickup impact.

Typically consist of beam and post elements.

**TERMINOLOGY: Call new system 31”  
(shows 2’-1” to bolt on standards)**



# Barrier Systems: Semi-Rigid

- W-Beam Steel Guardrail – **350 Guardrail (29")**
  - 12" wide W-beam rail section (12-gauge thickness).
  - Posts are spaced at 6'-3" centers, and the nominal rail height is 27" – 30"
  - Rail splice at the post.
  - Steel posts: W6 x 8.5/9.0 x 6'-0" long.
  - Blocks: 6" x 8" wood or plastic.



# Guardrail with Wood Post & Wood Block-Out 27 5/8" Height



Failed Test!!!



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Session 3



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# Guardrail with Steel Post & Wood Block-Out 27 5/8" Height



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



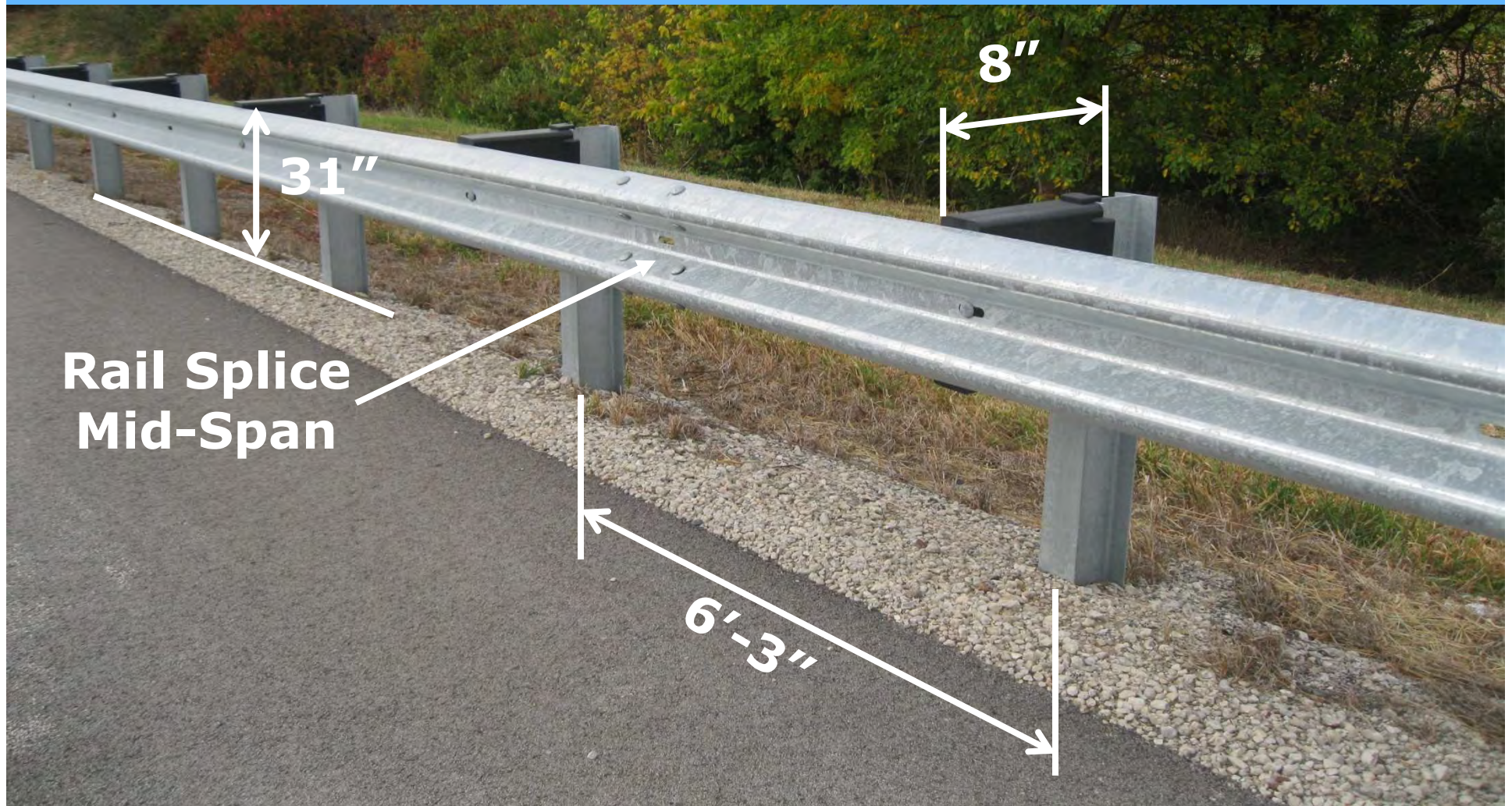
**3-24**

# Barrier Systems: Semi-Rigid

- **31"** (shown in standards as 2'-1")
  - 31" Height to Top of Rail
  - Rail Splice mid-span.
  - Post spacing 6'-3"
  - Steel posts, W6 x 8.5/9.0 x 6'
  - Offset Block: 8" recycled plastic or composite



# 31" Guardrail





# 31" MASH Test 3-11



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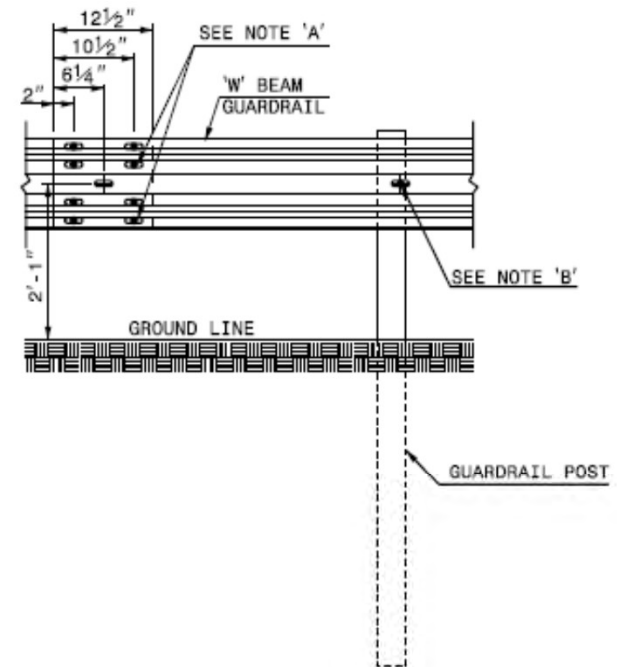
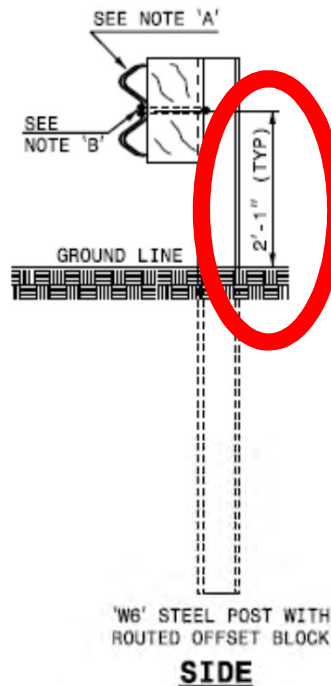
**Session 3**



**3-27**



# NCDOT 31" Guardrail



862.02  
SHEET 5 OF 8

ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR  
**GUARDRAIL INSTALLATION**

1-18  
STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-28**



# Existing Guardrail Height



Must be  $\geq 27"$  to  
remain in place within  
the Transportation  
Improvement Program  
(TIP)



NCDOT



Session 3

3-29



# Barrier Systems: Flexible Barriers

Flexible Barrier Systems typically have relatively large deflections

Examples of Flexible Barriers include:

- Weak post W-beam
  - Low tension cable
  - High tension cable
- No longer in standards  
To be removed from  
standards when MASH  
available

# Barrier Systems: Flexible Barriers

- Low Tensioned Cable Barrier
  - Generic System
  - 3 cables design (center cable on opposite side of the post for median application).
  - Design deflection of approximately 12 ft.
  - Generic crashworthy terminal.





# Cable Guiderail



**NCDOT**

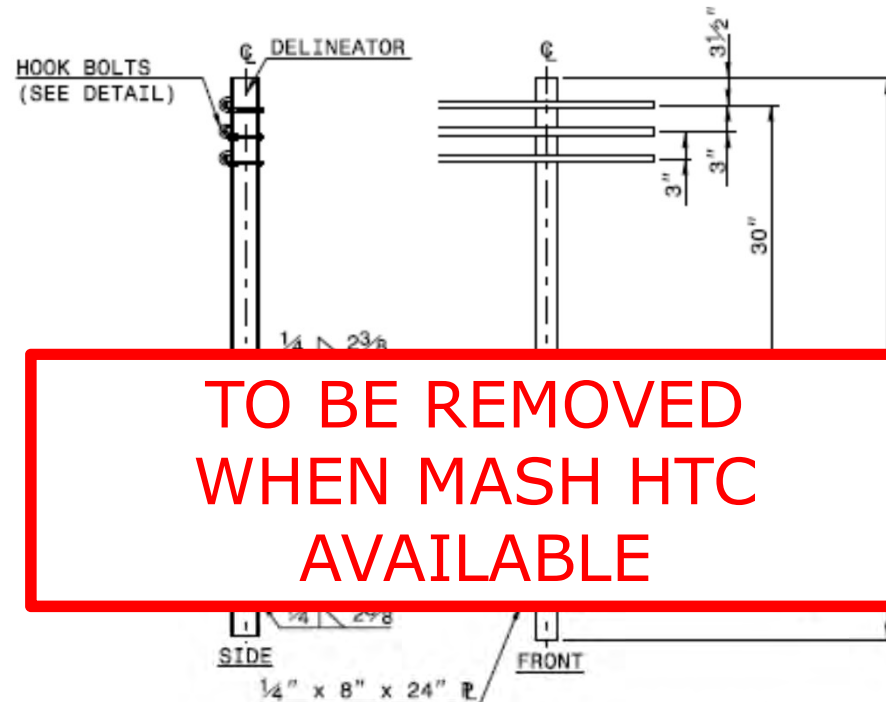


**Session 3**



**3-32**

# NCDOT Cable Guiderail



TO BE REMOVED  
WHEN MASH HTC  
AVAILABLE

**SINGLE FACE GUIDERAIL  
INTERMEDIATE POST**

865.01	SHEET 7 OF 12	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR	1-18	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
		<b>CABLE GUIDERAIL</b> SINGLE FACE GUIDERAIL - POST DETAILS		



NCDOT



Session 3



3-33



# Barrier Systems: Flexible Barriers

Advantages of cable systems include:

- Low initial cost
- Lower deceleration forces
- Effective vehicle containment and redirection
- Installation conditions flexibility
- SNOW



# Barrier Systems: Flexible Barriers

- High Tensioned Cable (HTC) Barrier
  - Five different proprietary designs available
  - Each requires a unique proprietary terminal
  - Somewhat reduced deflections
  - Generally easier maintenance
  - Can retain effectiveness after most impacts



# High-Tension Cable (HTC) Systems

- Brifen ★
- Safence
- CASS (Trinity Steel) ★
- Nucor
- Gibraltar ★

★ = APL

Currently, NO system has passed all MASH 2016 testing

# Brifen USA



<http://www.brifenusa.com>



- Interweaving cables creates a “mini-anchor” at each post due to friction as the tensioned cables weave past each post.
- 3 or 4 cable design available.



# Gibraltar



<http://www.gibraltartx.com>



- Has hairpin type connection to post.
- Posts to cable connection is alternate side-to-side
- 3 or 4-cable design available.



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**Session 3**

**3-38**



# Trinity Industries

(Cable Safety System-CASS)



<http://www.highwayguardrail.com>



- Post has waved-shape slot located in the web of the upper portion of the post.
- 3 or 4 cable design available.



# Four Cable System



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**Session 3**



**3-40**



# Post Foundation and Typical Terminal



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**Session 3**

**3-41**



# HTC On 4:1 Slope



Maximum Offset 4'



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Session 3



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# Barriers in the Median

- Used to separate opposing traffic on a divided highway or to separate through traffic from local traffic.
- Many barriers approved for roadside applications can be modified for use in the median.
- Width of the median is an important consideration.
- Also must consider the dynamic deflection of the barrier to avoid intrusion into opposing traffic.
- There are terminals designed specifically to shield the ends of median barriers.



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Session 3

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# MASH 27" W-Beam Median Barrier Test



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**

**3-44**

# MASH 31" Median Barrier Test



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-45**

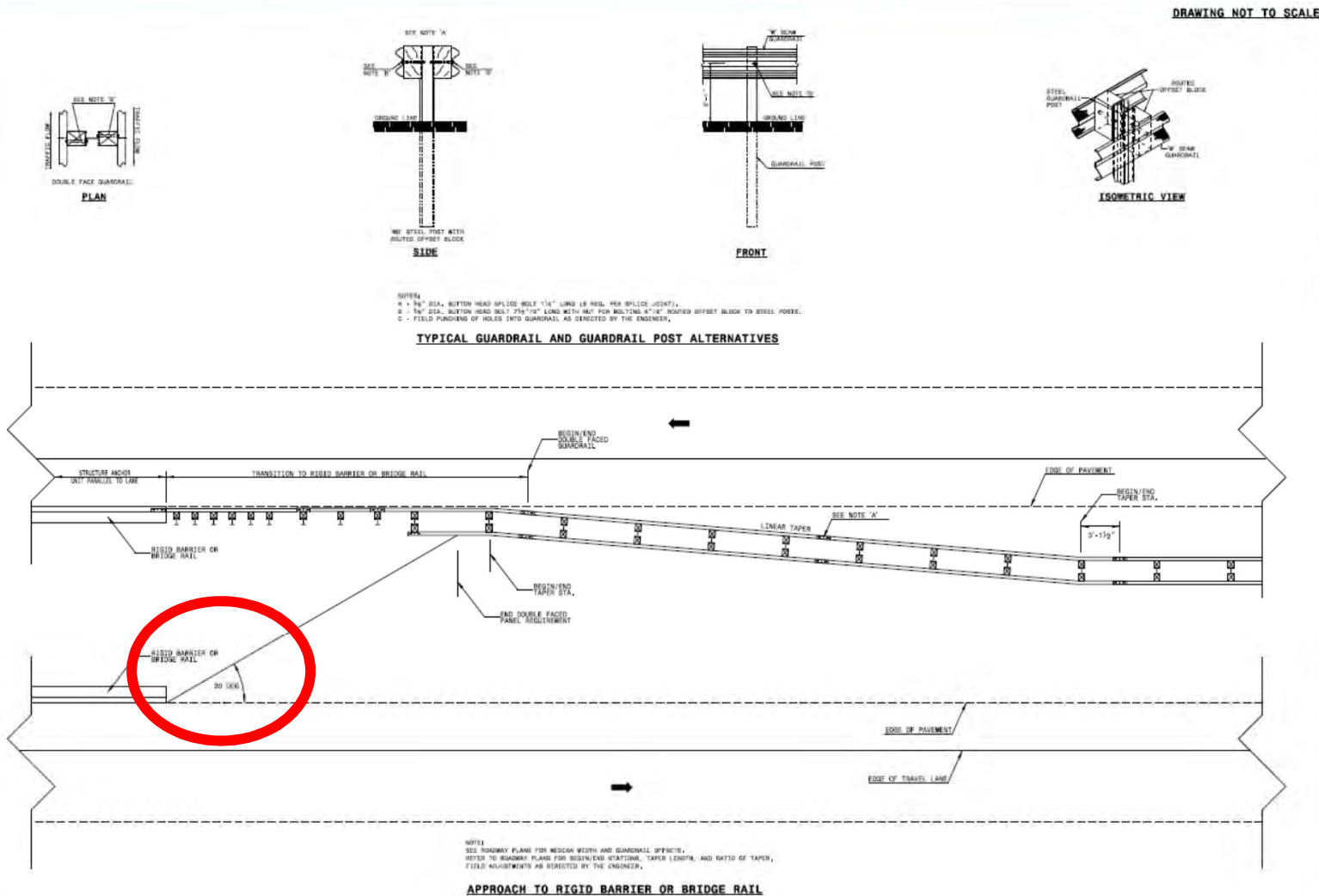


# MASH 31" Median Barrier

STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.

ROADWAY DETAIL DRAWING FOR  
**GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT**  
DOUBLE FACED W-BEAM

SHEET OF  
**862D01**



STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.

ROADWAY DETAIL DRAWING FOR  
**GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT**  
DOUBLE FACED W-BEAM

SHEET OF  
**862D01**

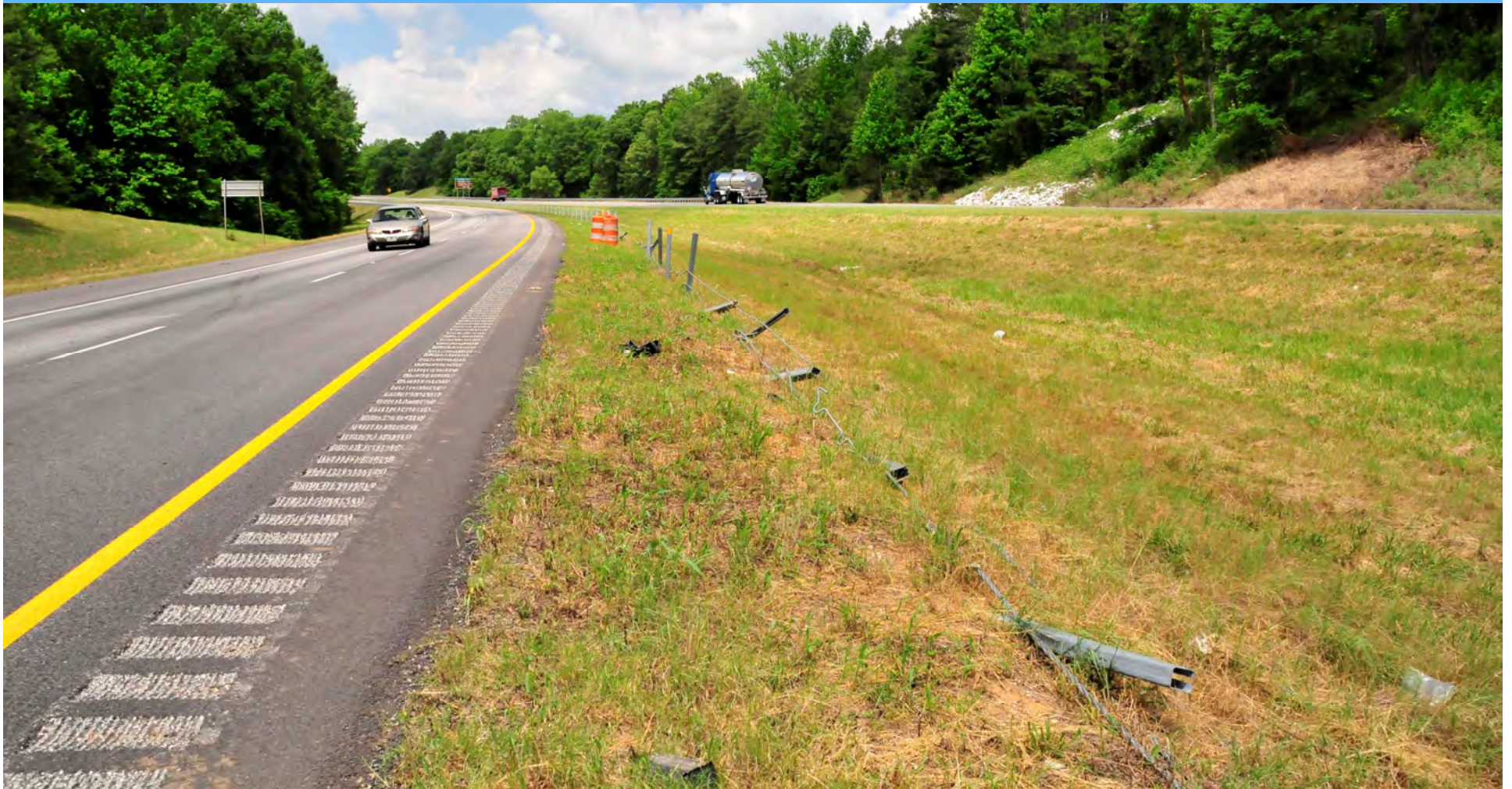
# Flexible Median Barriers

Advantage of high tension cable is it may remain effective after impact.





# Flexible Median Barriers



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-48**



# Transition Sections

- When a softer (more flexible) barrier precedes a stiffer barrier, a gradual stiffening must occur between the two systems.
- An effective transition must provide the following:
  - Adequate connection (TENSION continuity)
  - Adequate length to gradually increase stiffness.





# Inadequate Transition



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-50**

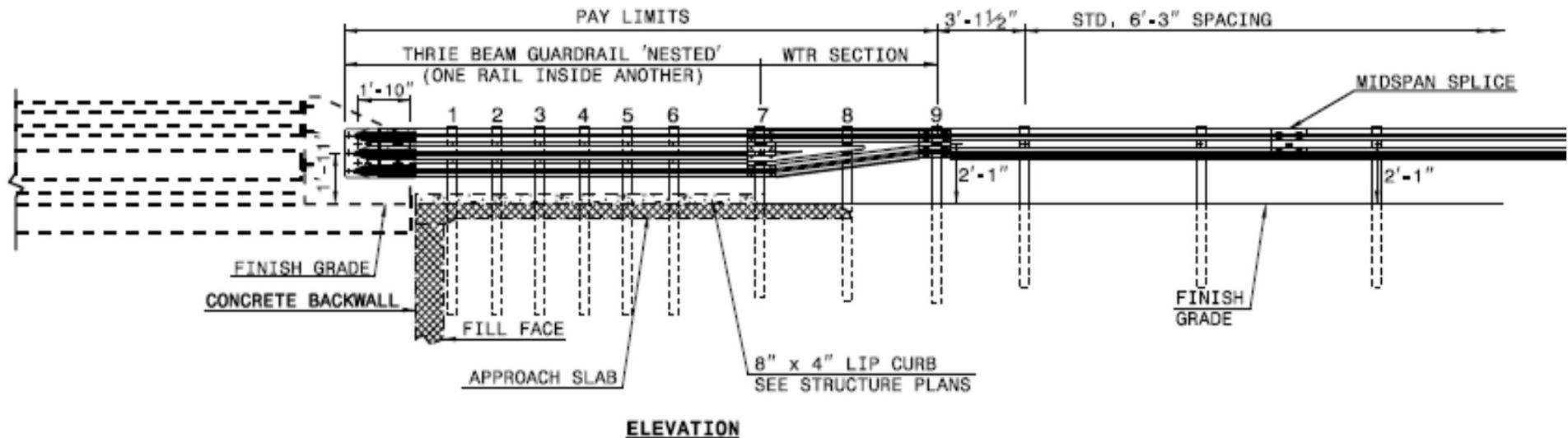
# Transition Sections

Successfully crash-tested transitions include the following essential elements (in addition to a structural connection):

- Additional and/or Larger Posts
- Nested rail (w-beam or Thrie-beam)
- Curbs (only as crash-tested transition unit), Rub Rails, and/or Flared Parapet Wall to Prevent Snagging



# NCDOT Transition – Thrie-beam



<b>862.03</b> SHEET 1 OF 7	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>STRUCTURE ANCHOR UNITS</b> GUARDRAIL ANCHOR UNIT, TYPE III FOR ATTACHMENT TO RAIL ON BRIDGE	<b>1-18</b> STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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NCDOT



Session 3



3-52



# NCDOT Transition – Previous Standard



**NCDOT**



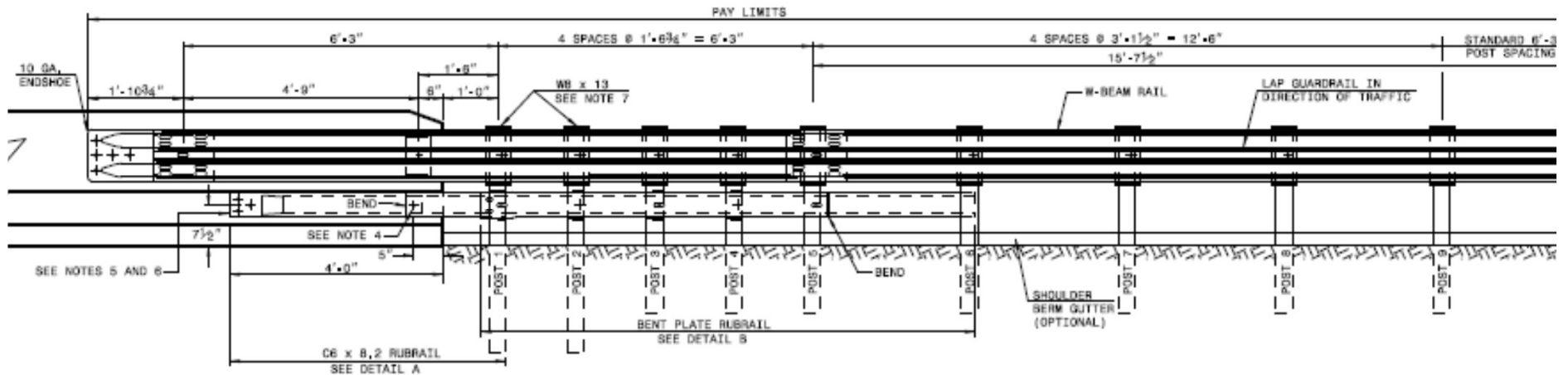
**Session 3**



**3-53**



# NCDOT Transition – Direct



**ELEVATION**

<b>862.03</b> SHEET 4 OF 7	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>STRUCTURE ANCHOR UNIT</b> GUARDRAIL ANCHOR UNIT TYPE B-77 FOR F-SHAPE BARRIER	<b>1-18</b> STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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**NCDOT**



Session 3



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# NCDOT Transition – With Curb



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-55**



# NPS Transition



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**



**3-56**



# 31" Transition



**NCDOT**



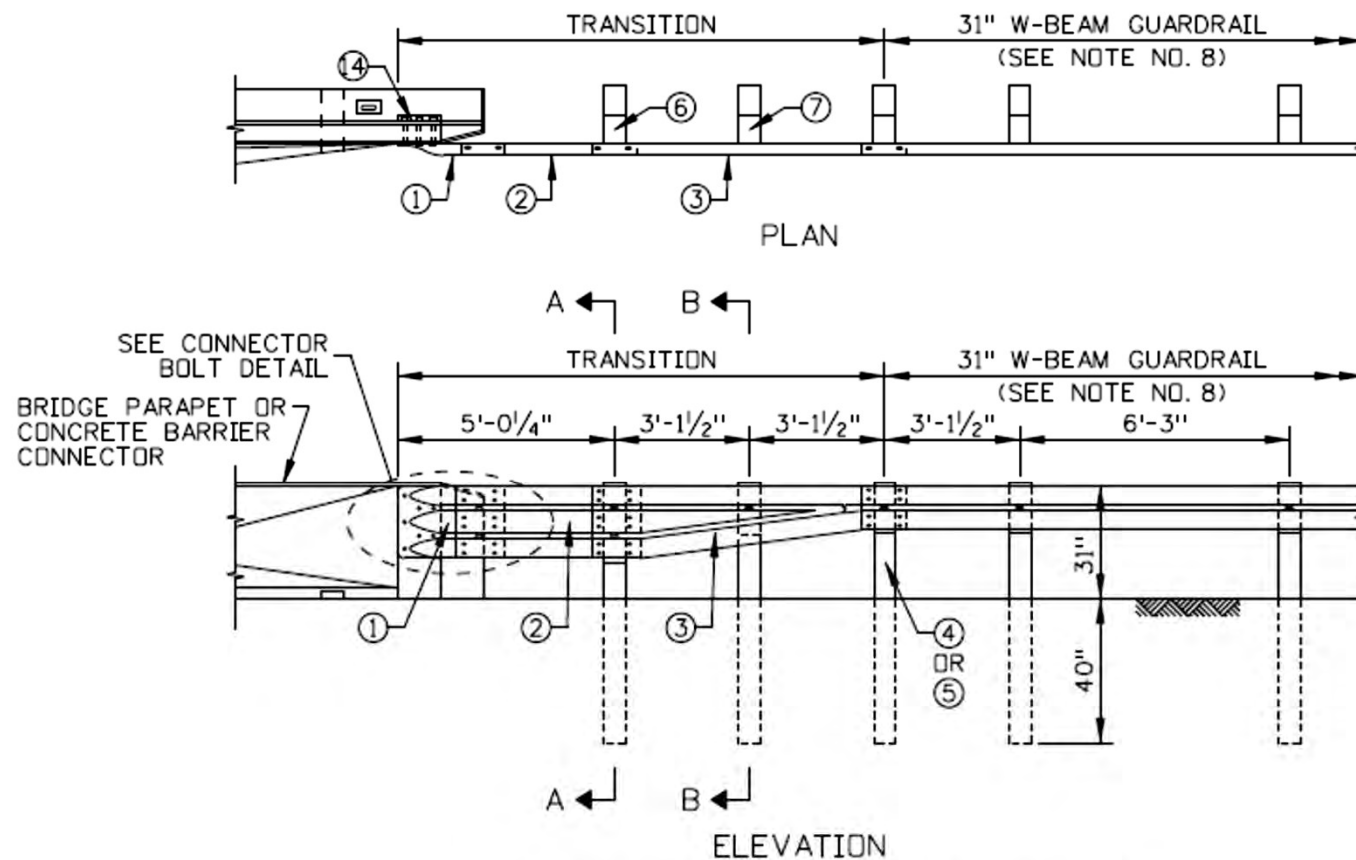
**Session 3**



**3-57**



# Transition – 31", TL-2



LOW SPEED GUARDRAIL TRANSITION



NCDOT



Session 3



3-58

# Connections to Low Parapets or Combination Rails

If the concrete parapet or portion of a combination rail is less than the transition height (31"), a steel plate may be applicable to adjust the height.





# Transition: HTC to Guardrail (Spatial)



**NCDOT**



Session 3



3-60



# HTC or LTC - Cable to W-Beam Transition



Probably not going to  
be available with MASH



# HTC - Cable to W-Beam Transition



**NCDOT**



**Session 3**

**3-62**



# Temporary Barrier – Need for Tension







COMPUTED BY: R.N. BASHINGTON DATE: 05/02/2005  
 CHECKED BY: T.F. DUNCAN, PE DATE: 06/22/2005

PROJECT NO: 8-1303  
 SHEET NO: 38

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

#### SUMMARY OF EARTHWORK

Station	Station	Excav. CY	Emb. CY	Borrow CY	Waste CY
17+00.00	17+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
18+00.00	18+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
19+00.00	19+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
20+00.00	20+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
21+00.00	21+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
22+00.00	22+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
23+00.00	23+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
24+00.00	24+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
25+00.00	25+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
26+00.00	26+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
27+00.00	27+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
28+00.00	28+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
29+00.00	29+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
30+00.00	30+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
31+00.00	31+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
32+00.00	32+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
33+00.00	33+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
34+00.00	34+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
35+00.00	35+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
36+00.00	36+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
37+00.00	37+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
38+00.00	38+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
39+00.00	39+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
40+00.00	40+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
41+00.00	41+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
42+00.00	42+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
43+00.00	43+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
44+00.00	44+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
45+00.00	45+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
46+00.00	46+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
47+00.00	47+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
48+00.00	48+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
49+00.00	49+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
50+00.00	50+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
51+00.00	51+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
52+00.00	52+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
53+00.00	53+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
54+00.00	54+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
55+00.00	55+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
56+00.00	56+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
57+00.00	57+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
58+00.00	58+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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61+00.00	61+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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69+00.00	69+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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82+00.00	82+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
83+00.00	83+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
84+00.00	84+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
85+00.00	85+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
86+00.00	86+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
87+00.00	87+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
88+00.00	88+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
89+00.00	89+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
90+00.00	90+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
91+00.00	91+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
92+00.00	92+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
93+00.00	93+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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105+00.00	105+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
106+00.00	106+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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108+00.00	108+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
109+00.00	109+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
110+00.00	110+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
111+00.00	111+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
112+00.00	112+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
113+00.00	113+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
114+00.00	114+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
115+00.00	115+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
116+00.00	116+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
117+00.00	117+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
118+00.00	118+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
119+00.00	119+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
120+00.00	120+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
121+00.00	121+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
122+00.00	122+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
123+00.00	123+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
124+00.00	124+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
125+00.00	125+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
126+00.00	126+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
127+00.00	127+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
128+00.00	128+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
129+00.00	129+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
130+00.00	130+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
131+00.00	131+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
132+00.00	132+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
133+00.00	133+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
134+00.00	134+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
135+00.00	135+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
136+00.00	136+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
137+00.00	137+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
138+00.00	138+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
139+00.00	139+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
140+00.00	140+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
141+00.00	141+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
142+00.00	142+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
143+00.00	143+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
144+00.00	144+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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146+00.00	146+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
147+00.00	147+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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151+00.00	151+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
152+00.00	152+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
153+00.00	153+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
154+00.00	154+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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160+00.00	160+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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162+00.00	162+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
163+00.00	163+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
164+00.00	164+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
165+00.00	165+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
166+00.00	166+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
167+00.00	167+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
168+00.00	168+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
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184+00.00	184+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	
185+00.00	185+00.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	

# Quantity Summary Sheet – blow-up

LINE	BEG. STA.	END STA.
-L-	13+02.94	17+77.34
-L-	13+02.94	17+77.34
-L-	19+84.06	23+09.36
-L-	19+84.06	22+84.36
-L-	16+00.00	
-L-		21+50.00
-DET-	14+44.15	23+09.15
-DET-	15+87.50	23+50.00
SUBTOTAL:		

W		ANCHORS			
APPR. END	TRAIL. END	TYPE III	GRAU 350	TEMP GRAU 350	
1		1	1		
	1	1	1		
	1	1	1		
1		1	1		
1				1	
	1			1	
1	1			2	
1	1			2	
		4	4	6	

Need to re-establish tension in any altered guardrail – include in plan sheets

★ Placement of GRAU (GREU) must abide by standard application criteria (Deflection and LON)



# Review Learning Outcomes

- Understand how barriers are tested for crashworthiness
- Identify common barrier systems
- Explain how these barrier systems function
- Define the key components of a transition design

North Carolina Department of Transportation  
**Highway Safety Barrier Design Training**

**Session 4:**  
**Testing Requirements and  
Performance Characteristics  
of End Treatments and  
Impact Attenuators**



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**Session 4**

**4-1**



# Session 4 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Understand how end treatments and impact attenuators are tested for crashworthiness
- Identify common end treatments and impact attenuators
- Understand how these systems function
- Choose the appropriate system for a specific site

# Guardrail End Treatments

A barrier end treatment must serve two functions:

- Provide the necessary TENSION of the guardrail system for downstream impacts
- Be crashworthy when impacted end-on.



# Cable Anchor Terminal – MASH

- 2 Design Tested
- Both have a strut between last 2 posts



TxDOT Design  
9'- 4 ½ " rail element  
Rail ends at last post



Eligibility Letter B-256

MwRSF Design  
12'- 6" rail  
Rail extends past last post

# Cable Anchor Terminal - Tension



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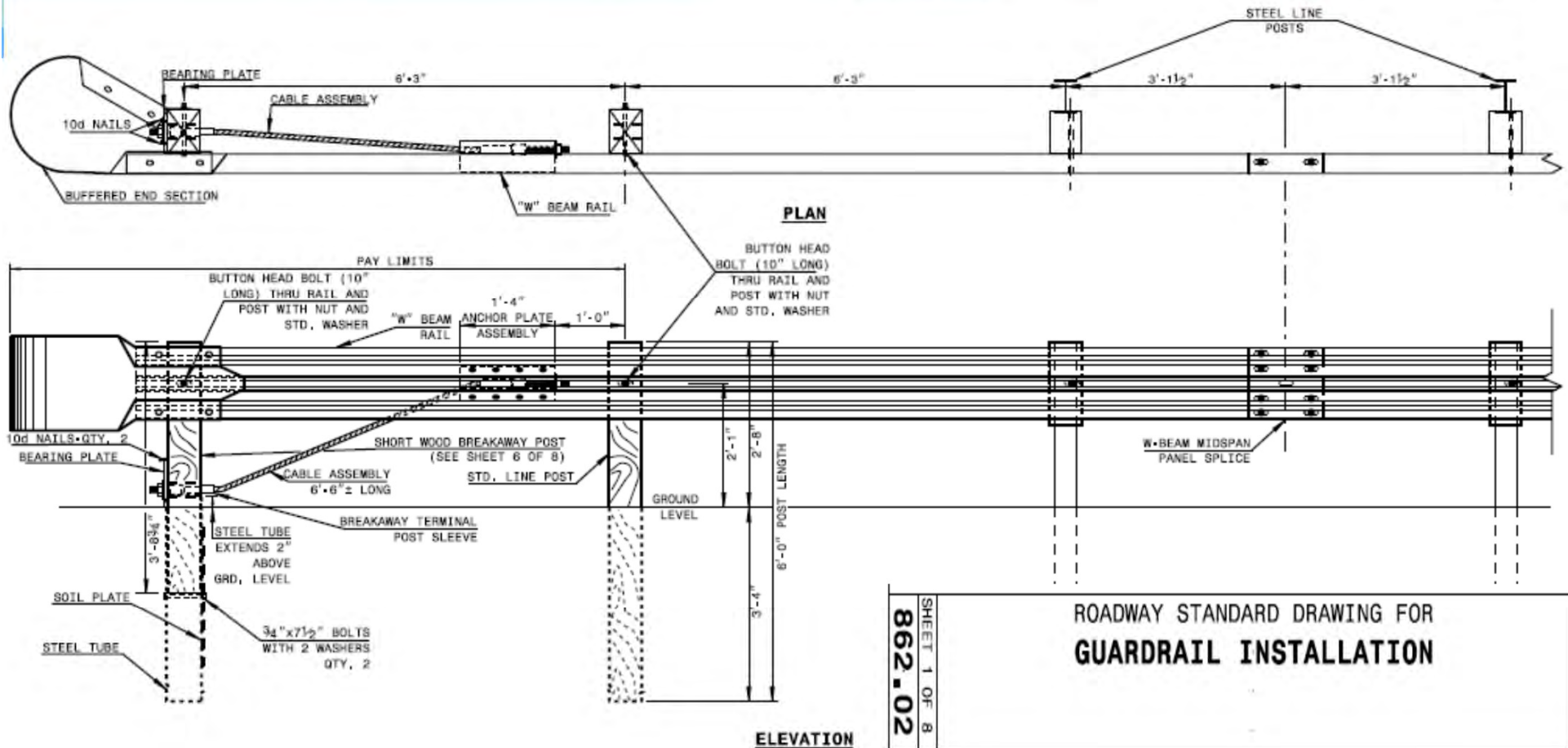
**Session 4**



**4-5**



# NC Cable Anchor – Not tested



## TRAILING END UNIT ASSEMBLY

### C.A.T.-1 SYSTEM

Session 4

4-6

# Guardrail Cable Anchor Terminal Test



Impacted at 6<sup>th</sup> post from the end

Vehicle deflected up to 10' behind the barrier



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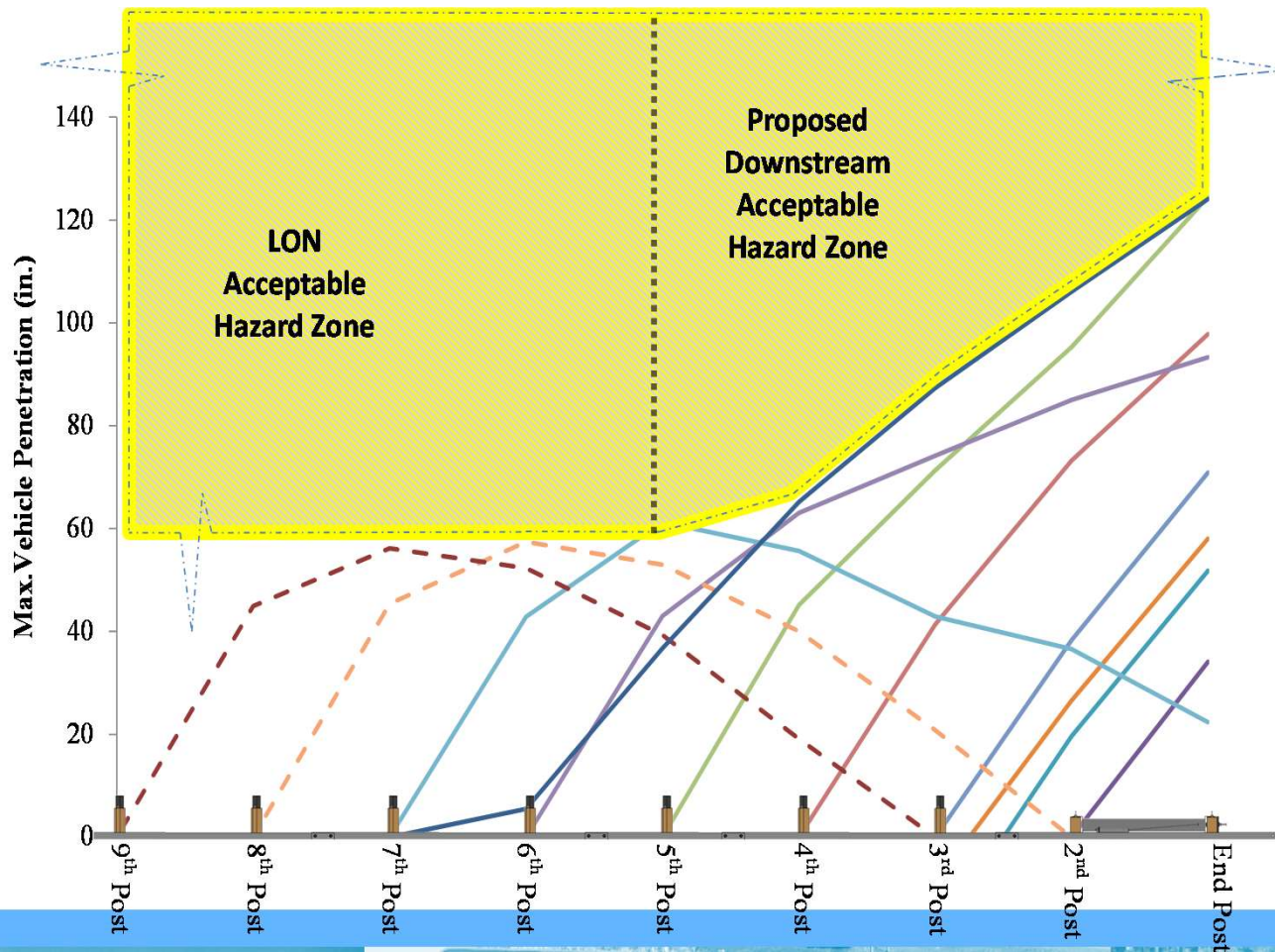


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4-7



# Guardrail Cable Anchor Terminal Test Analysis



Based on test and simulations, additional working width may be needed from the 6<sup>th</sup> post to the end of the rail.



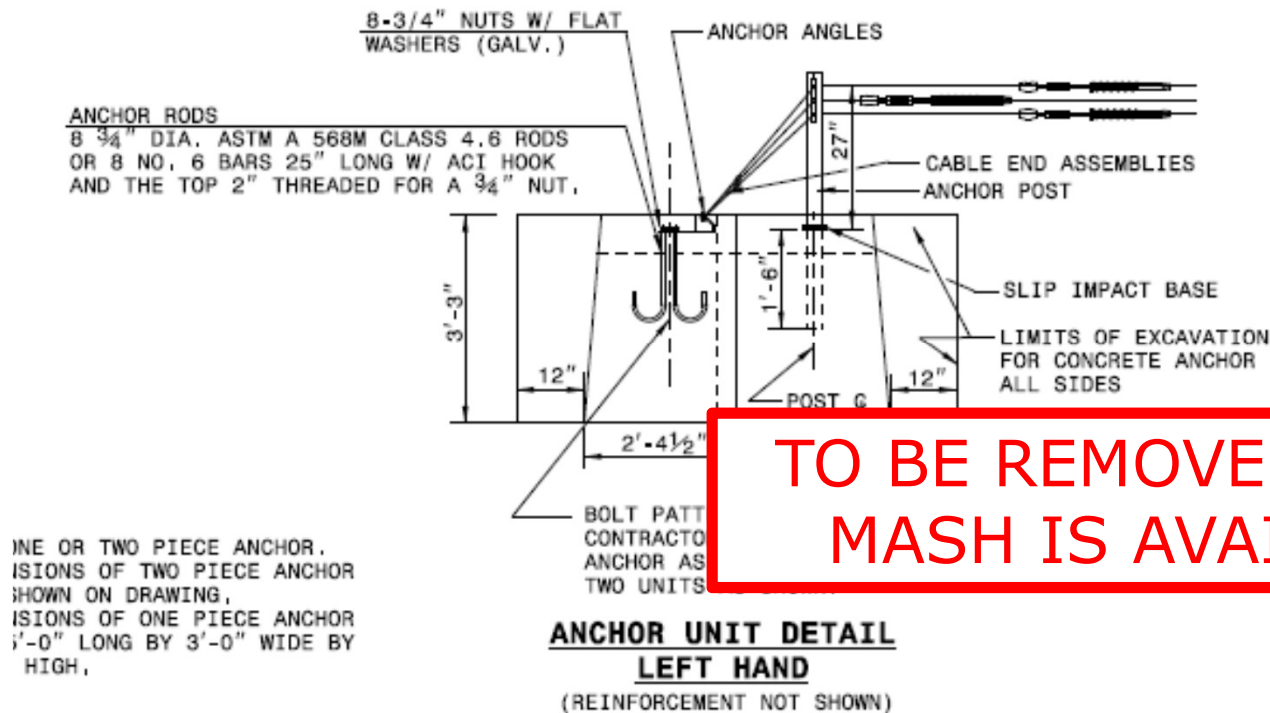
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# Cable Guiderail terminal - LTC



865.01 SHEET 10 OF 12	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>CABLE GUIDERAIL</b> ANCHOR DETAILS	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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NCDOT



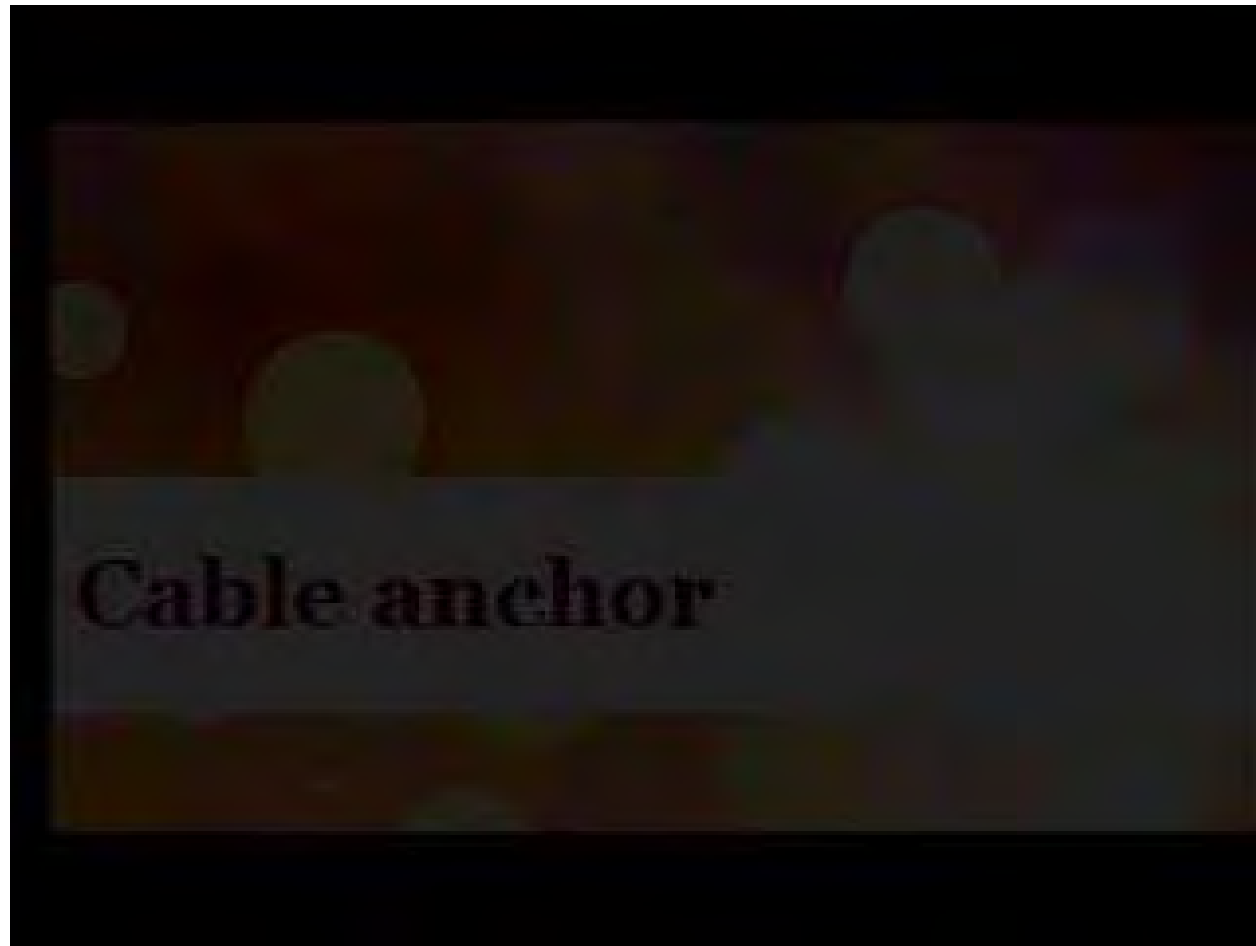
Session 4



4-9



# Cable Guiderail terminal - HTC



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**Session 4**



**4-10**

# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



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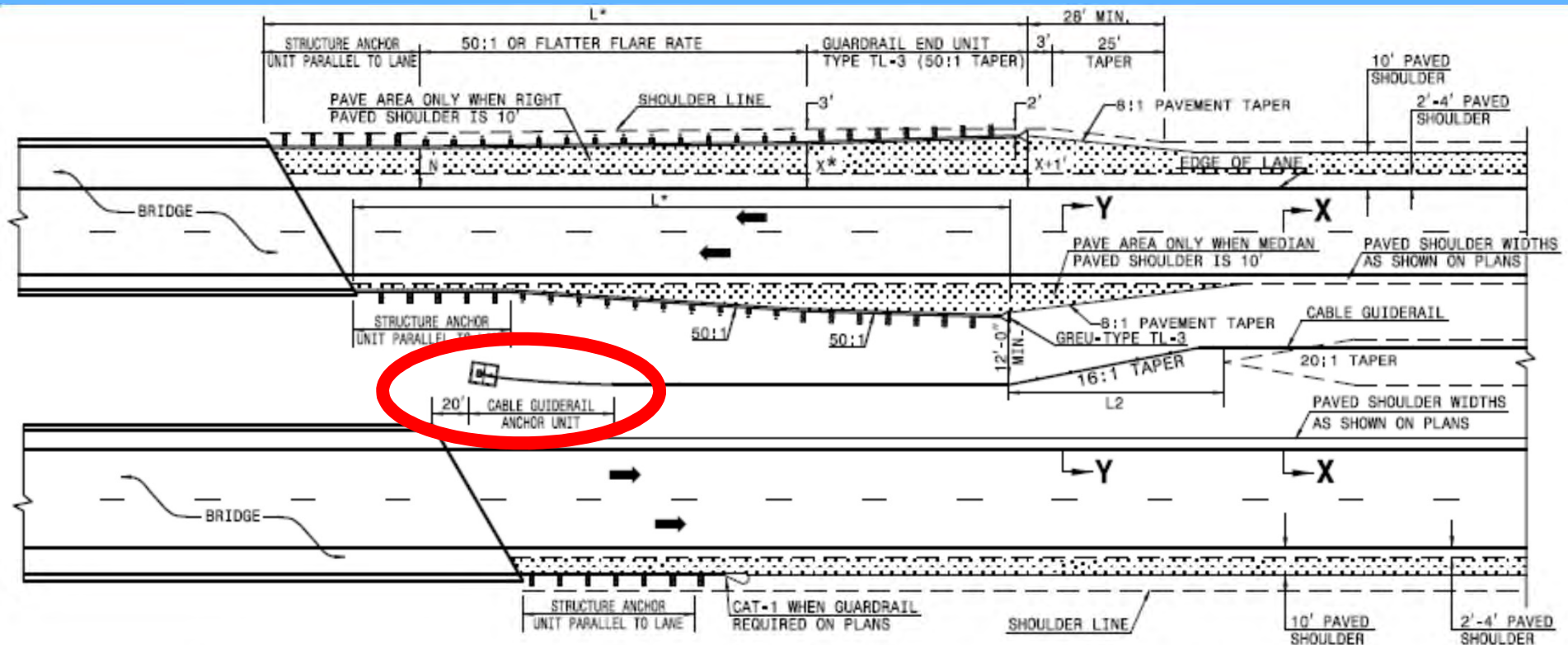
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4-11



# Cable Guiderail Anchor Unit Placement



865.01  
SHEET 2 OF 12

ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR  
**CABLE GUIDERAIL**  
DUAL LANE BRIDGES GUIDERAIL LAYOUT

1-18  
STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.



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Session 4

4-12



# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



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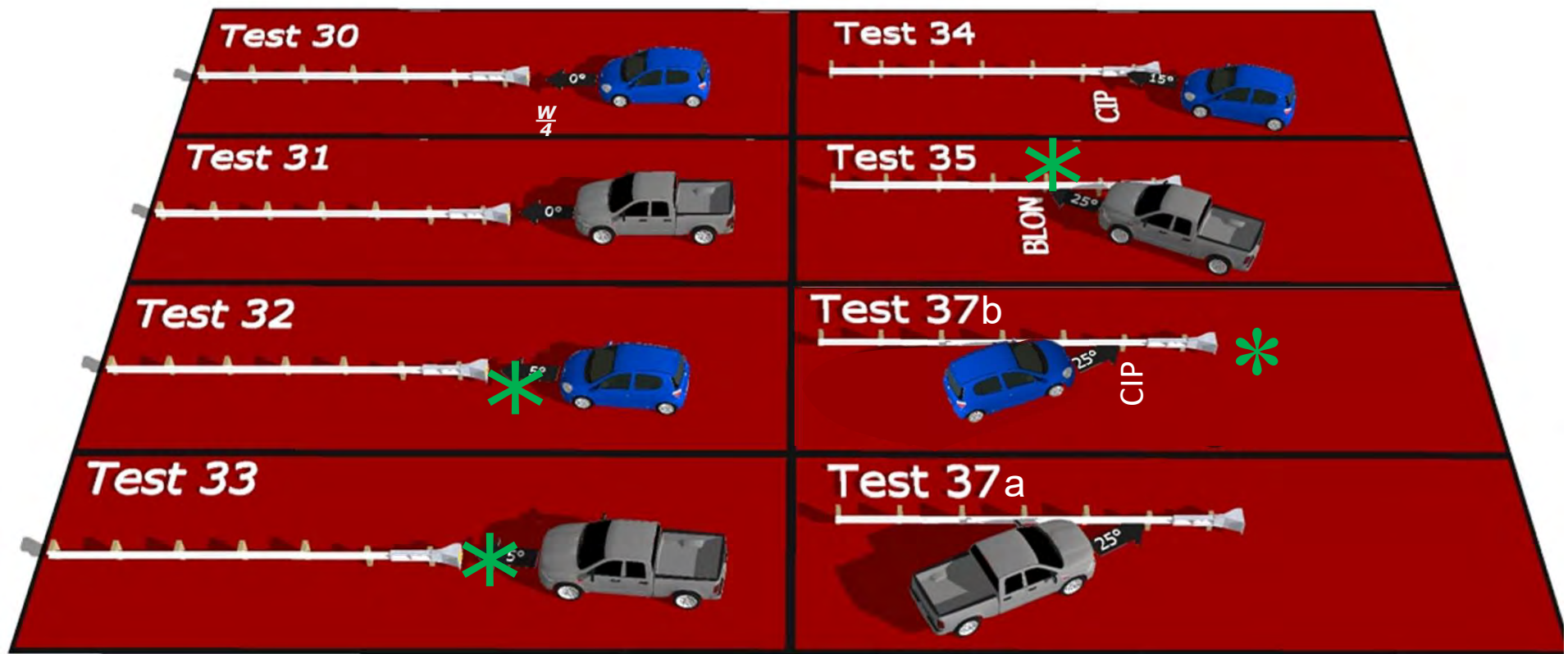


Session 4

4-13



# End Treatment MASH Test Matrix



\* Significant Change

\* Small Car 1100C (2420 #)

\* Pickup Truck 2270P (5000 #)

BLON – Beginning Length of Need

# Guardrail End Treatments

## Types of End Treatments

- Buried-in-Cut (Detail, not in Standards)
- Tangent terminals – terminal is parallel to the roadway or has a straight flare with a “slight” offset; all are Energy-absorbing
- Flared terminals – terminal is placed on a flare to the roadway typically 3’ or 4’; both non-energy- and energy-absorbing



# Buried in Cut End Treatment

- Key design considerations:
  - For slopes steeper than 10:1, keep the height of the w-beam rail constant relative to the roadway grade until the barrier crosses the ditch flow line (but a max height of 47")
  - Use a flare rate, either 13:1 or appropriate for the design speed,
  - Add a w-beam rubrail when the distance between the bottom of the w-beam rail and the ground exceeds ~19",
  - Use an anchor of steel posts capable of developing the full tensile strength of the w-beam rail and buried 1' below ground



# MASH

## Buried in Cut End Treatment



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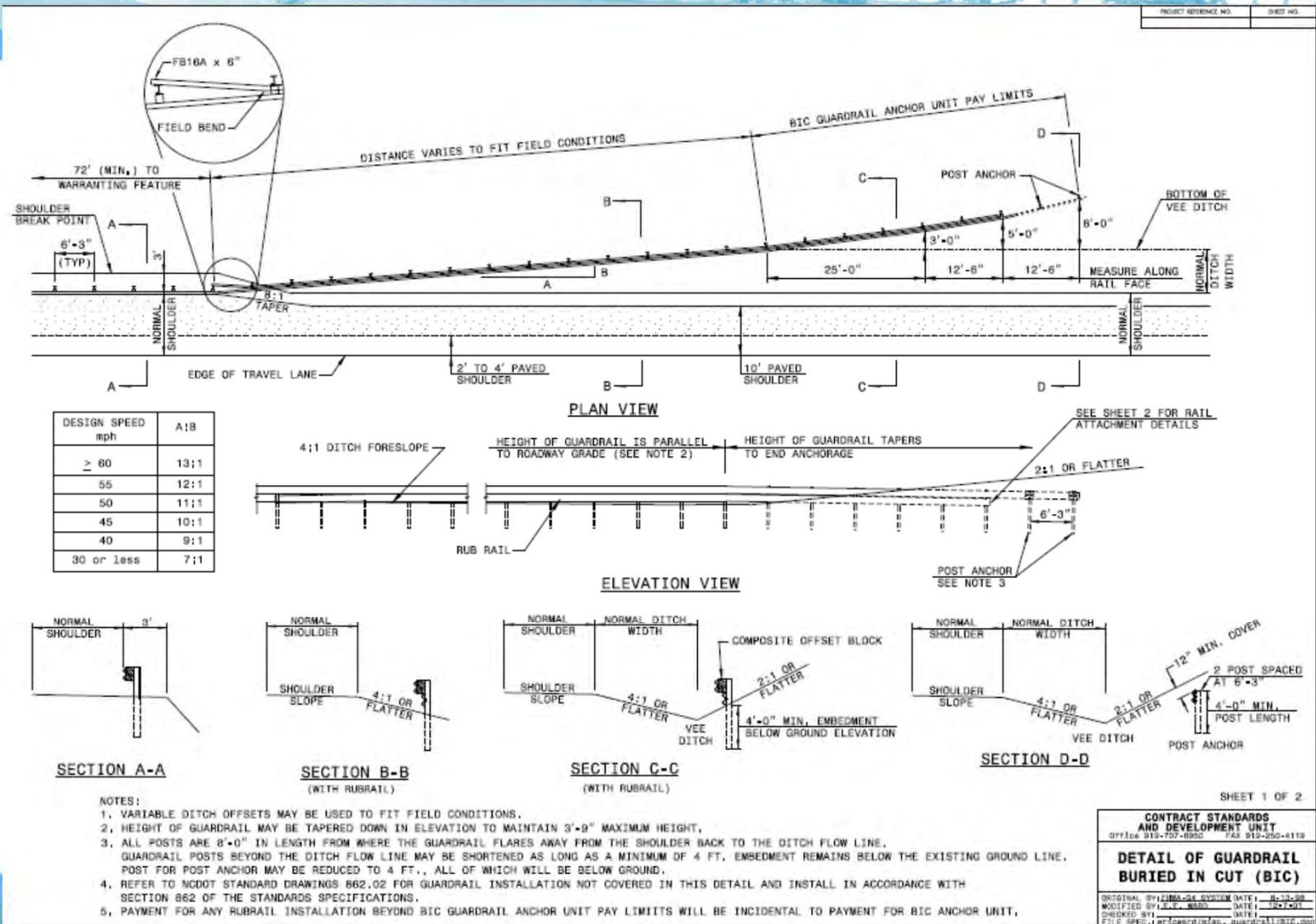
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**4-17**



# Buried in Cut (350 – to be Updated)



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NORTH CAROLINA  
NATIONS' MOST MILITARY FRIENDLY STATE  
STATE LINE

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# BIC Looking Across Roadway



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Session 4



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# Single Rail BIC



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**4-20**



# BIC Considerations – 10:1 Slope for Single



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# BIC Considerations - LON

Any concerns with this installation?



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# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



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# End Treatments - Terminology

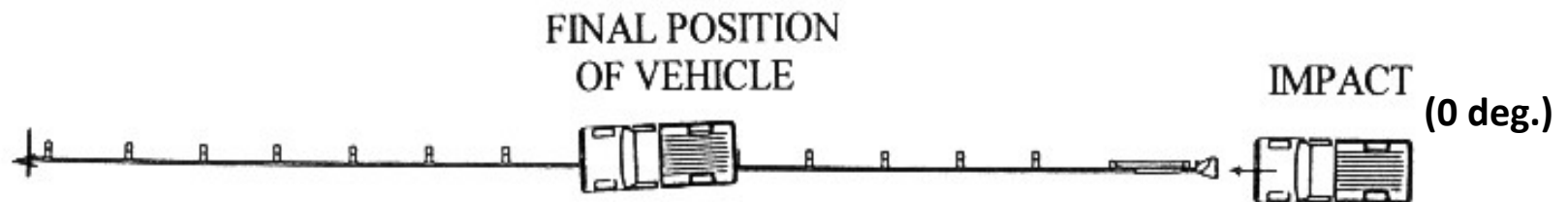
CAT-1 – Cable Anchor Terminal – non-crashworthy device to develop Tension where there is no opportunity for end-on impacts

(AT-1 – Anchor Terminal – no cable)

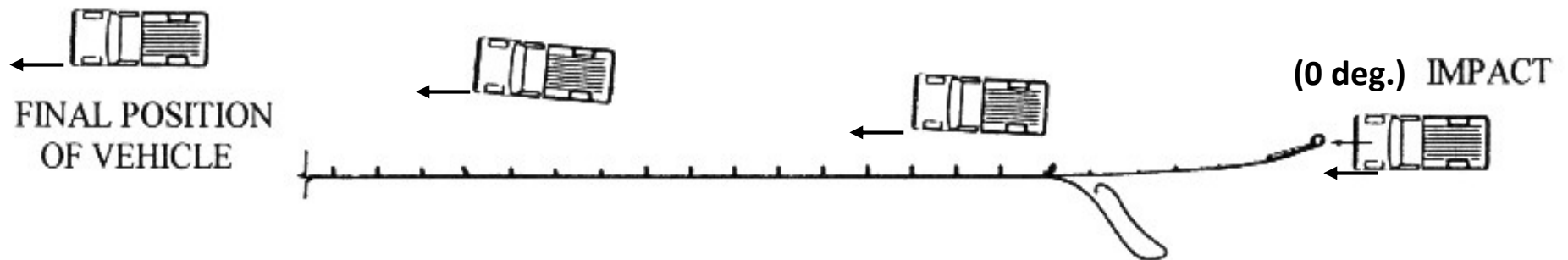
GREA – Guardrail End Anchor – crashworthy Pre-MASH devices

GREU – Guardrail End Unit – crashworthy MASH approved devices

# End Treatments



**Energy Absorbing Terminal**  
(vehicle is brought to a controlled stop in a short distance)



**Non-Energy Absorbing Terminal**  
Controlled Buckling Terminal  
(vehicle may travel hundreds of feet before stopping)



# Flared End Treatments

Historically used, most recently the SRT and FLEAT

Business »

## Approved Products List

Product ID (ex. NPYX-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group: Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088) ▼

Product Category: End Treatments ▼

Product Status: ▼

Product ID	Plant ID	Company Name	Product Group	Product Category	Product Name	Model Number	Product Status	Description
<a href="#">NP11-5773</a>		Road Systems, Inc.	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments	MFLEAT		Approved	MASH tested, Guardrail End Terminal
<a href="#">NP18-8095</a>		Transportation Solutions	Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments	MAX-Tension Median Guardrail Terminal		Approved	Telescoping, tension-based terminal with an energy absorbing coupler that features a cutting tooth design.
<a href="#">NP17-7848</a>	GR44	Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments	Max-Tension End Treatment		Approved	MASH tested; Telescoping, tension-based guardrail end terminal with an energy absorbing coupler that features a cutting tooth design.

<https://apps.ncdot.gov/vendor/approvedproducts/>

# Flared End Treatment: Energy Absorbing

- **MFLEAT** *MASH Version of FLEAT (MASH 16)*
  - Curls the rail (by kinking) tightly towards the roadway.
  - Steel post system; BLON at 4<sup>th</sup> Post
  - TL-3 at 39' 7" straight flared length. 3-ft. offset.
  - Cable-anchored, compression system



**BLON – Beginning  
Length of Need**

Ref: FHWA Eligibility Letter CC-143 dated 04/10/19



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# MASH MFLEAT



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**Session 4**



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# Flared End Treatment: Non-energy-Absorbing

- MASH SRT (Slotted Rail Terminal)
  - W-Beam rails on a straight line and horizontal slots in rail
  - Offset - 4'; 31" Height
  - 37'-6" long, BLON at Post 4
  - Cable-anchored system

**Not currently on APL**



Ref: FHWA Eligibility Letter CC-140 dated 12/19/17



# MASH Test 3-31: SRT



Because of the non-energy absorption, no hazard should exist within 150' downstream of post #1



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Session 4



4-30





NOT GOOD!!!!



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Session 4



4-31



# Flared End Treatments on Flared Standard Run

The flare of the end treatment is measured from a line parallel to the ROADWAY:

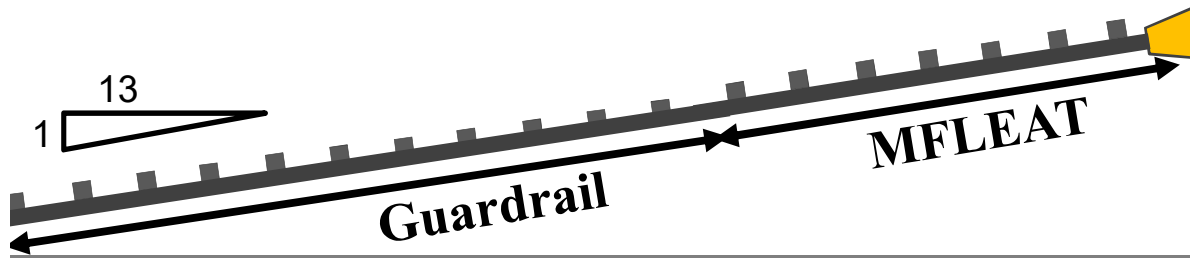
For Energy Absorbing (MFLEAT) which has a 13:1 flare, there may need to be a “kink” either toward or away from the roadway, depending on the flare of the standard guardrail

For the SRT MASH, the offsets are measured from a line parallel to the roadway.

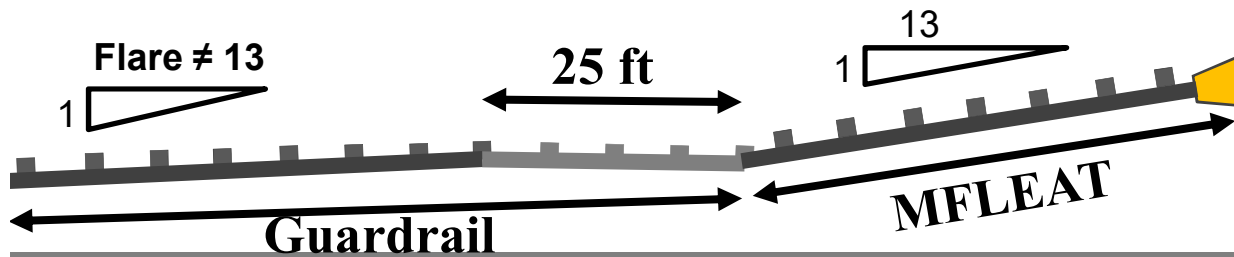
NCDOT guidance is to provide 25' of parallel guardrail in advance of any end treatment requiring a kink.

# Flared End Treatment on Flared Standard Run

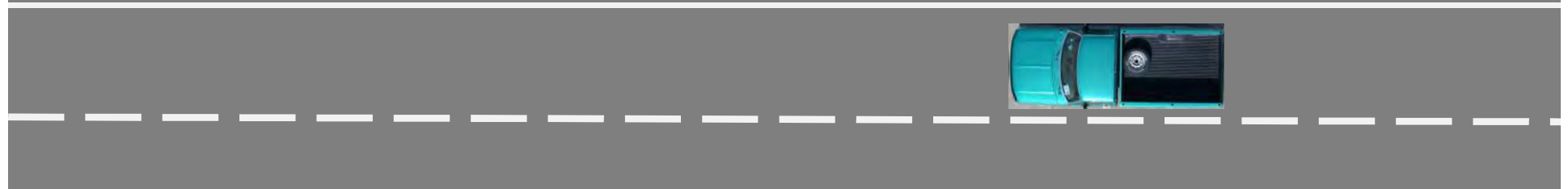
## MFLEAT - Schematic



Flare of standard guardrail is 13:1



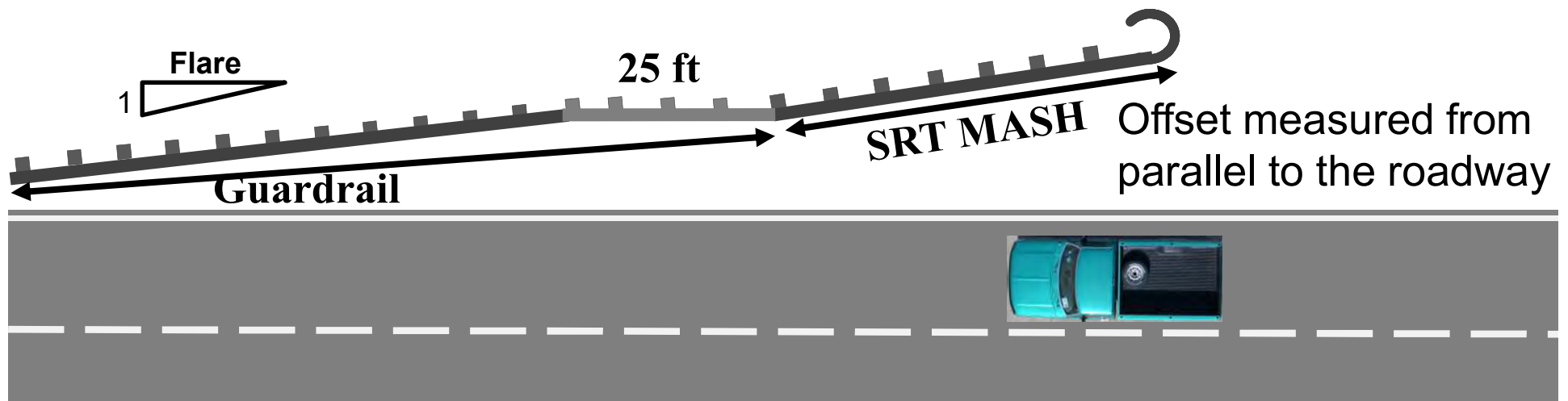
Flare of standard guardrail is not 13:1





# Flared End Treatments on Flared Standard Run

## SRT MASH - Schematic



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Session 4



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# Flared End Treatment Selection

- The contractor may choose any system on the Approved Product List meeting the design requirements
  - One is energy absorbing (currently MFLEAT)
  - One could be non-energy absorbing (SRT)

What is **important** is to understand how the system works –a **FLARED** system should only be allowed if criteria have been met (LON and grading)



# Tangent End Treatment



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Business DMV Newsroom Programs

Business »

## Approved Products List

Product ID (ex. NPYY-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group:

Product Category: End Treatments, Type MASH-16

Product Status:

Search Reset

Product ID	Plant ID	Company Name	Product Group	Product Category	Product Name	Model Number	Product Status	Description
<a href="#">NP17-7819</a>		Trinity Highway Products	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments, Type MASH-16	SoftStop Mash End Terminal		Approved	MASH tested;All steel galvanized tangent end terminal for use with 31" W-Beam system.
<a href="#">NP17-7851</a>		Road Systems, Inc.	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments, Type MASH-16	MSKT		Approved	MASH tested;Guardrail End Terminal
<a href="#">NP18-8257</a>		SPIG Industry, LLC	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	End Treatments, Type MASH-16	SGET		Approved	The SGET (SPIG Gating End Terminal) is a gating guardrail end terminal system in which an impact upon the head causes the head to move down the guardrail and dissipate the energy of the impact. The SGET system also deflects vehicles back onto the roadway



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Session 4



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# Tangent End Treatment: Energy Absorbing

- **MSKT** *MASH Version of SKT (MASH 16)*
  - Kinks Guardrail when hit head-on or at a shallow angle
  - Steel post system; BLON at 3<sup>rd</sup> Post
  - TL-3 at 47' long; attachment to 31" Guardrail
  - Cable-anchored system, Compression system



6. PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 12'-6" OF 31" W-BEAM GUARDRAIL BETWEEN THE GUARDRAIL TERMINAL AND A GUARDRAIL TRANSITION.



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**Session 4**

**4-37**



# MASH MSKT

## MASH Test 3-30



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**Session 4**



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# Tangent End Treatment: Energy Absorbing

- Soft Stop (MASH 16)
  - Impact head slides along panels, crushing them vertically, absorbing the energy of the vehicle in shallow angle impacts – **works in tension**
  - TL-3 at 51' long; BLON at 16'-6"; 31" only



6. PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 12'-6" OF 31" W-BEAM GUARDRAIL BETWEEN THE GUARDRAIL TERMINAL AND A GUARDRAIL TRANSITION.



# MASH Soft Stop



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## Session 4



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# MASH SGET



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**Session 4**



**4-42**

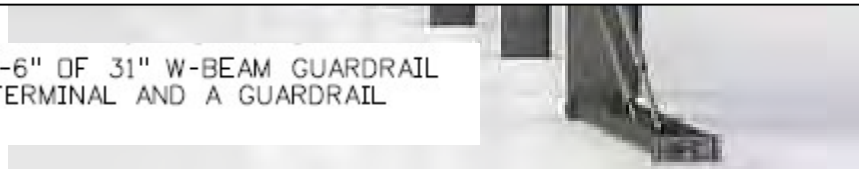
# Tangent End Treatment: Energy Absorbing

- MAX-Tension (MASH 16)
  - The MAX system utilizes tensioned cables, telescoping panels, and a cutting tooth to absorb the kinetic energy and safely contain or redirect impacting – **works primarily in tension**
  - TL-3 at 50' long; BLON at 9'-4 ½"; 31" only



Also on APL under a different category – End Treatments

6. PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 12'-6" OF 31" W-BEAM GUARDRAIL BETWEEN THE GUARDRAIL TERMINAL AND A GUARDRAIL TRANSITION.



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Session 4

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# MASH MAX-Tension

## MASH Test 3-30



**NCDOT**



**Session 4**



**4-44**

# Tangent End Treatments on Flared Standard Run

The offset of the end treatment is measured from a line parallel to the ROADWAY:

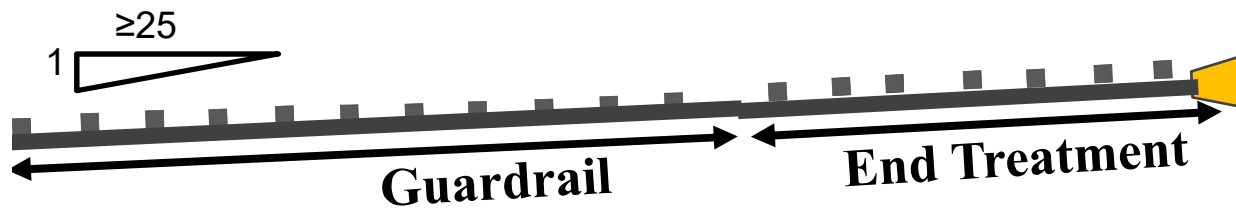
If the standard flare is 25:1 or flatter, the end treatment may be placed on the standard flare line extended

If the standard flare is sharper than 25:1, a kink in the run must be provided so the end treatment is no sharper than 25:1

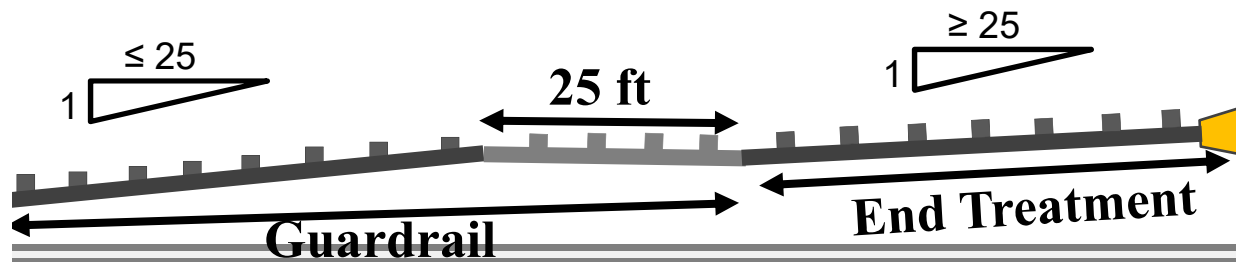
NCDOT guidance is to provide 25' of parallel guardrail in advance of any end treatment requiring a kink.



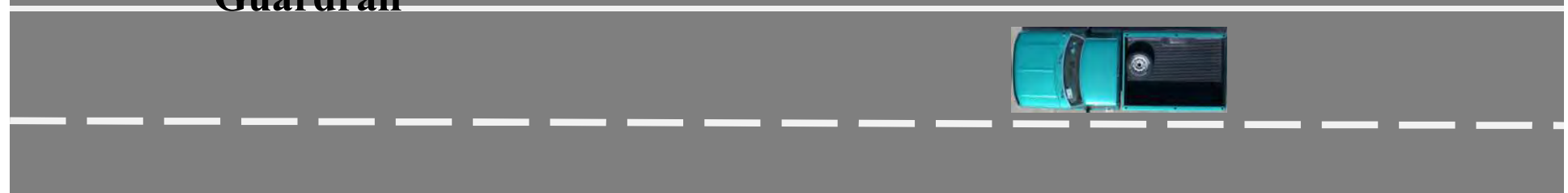
# Tangent End Treatments on Flared Standard Run Schematic



Standard Run Flare  
of 25:1 or flatter



Standard Run Flare  
is sharper than 25:1



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Session 4



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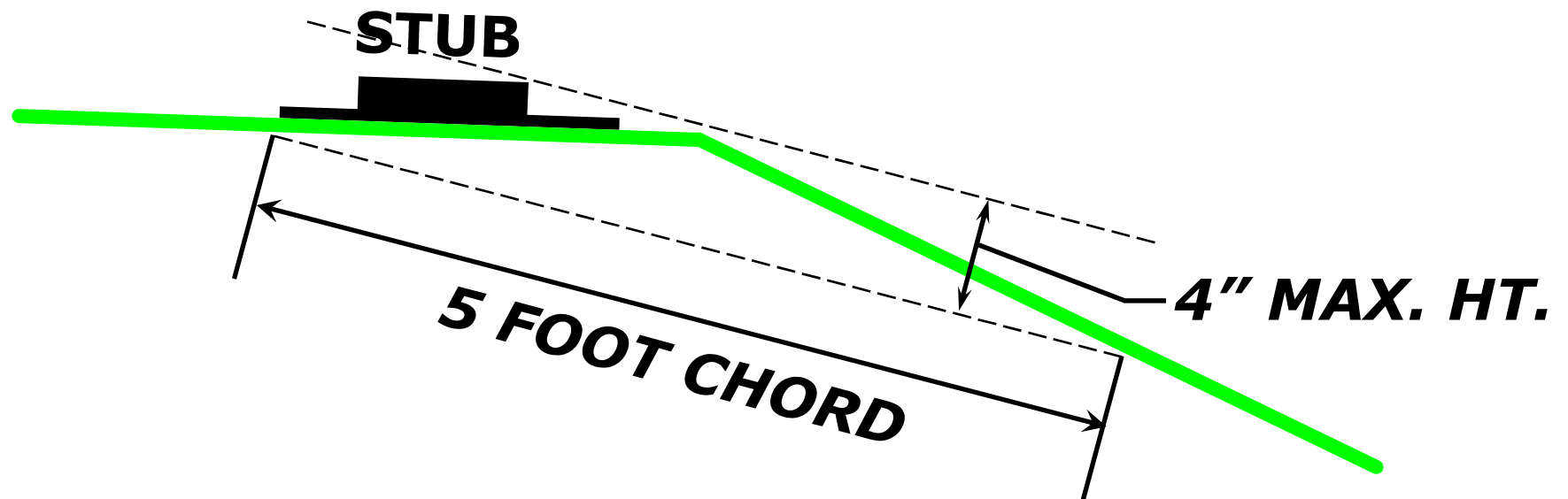
# End Treatment Grading

- Special grading requirements for guardrail end treatments:
  - Flat terrain (10:1 or flatter) is required *in ADVANCE of all end treatments* so that vehicles are relatively stable on approach
  - Flat grading must extend *behind* post 1 (**ADJACENT**) so vehicle is stable at impact and stub height criteria is satisfied

Ref: FHWA Memorandum, Roadside Safety Hardware, May 26, 2015 with attachment and  
Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Section 8.3.3.



# Stub Height Criteria



***RDG Figure 4.1***

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Figure 4.1



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**Session 4**

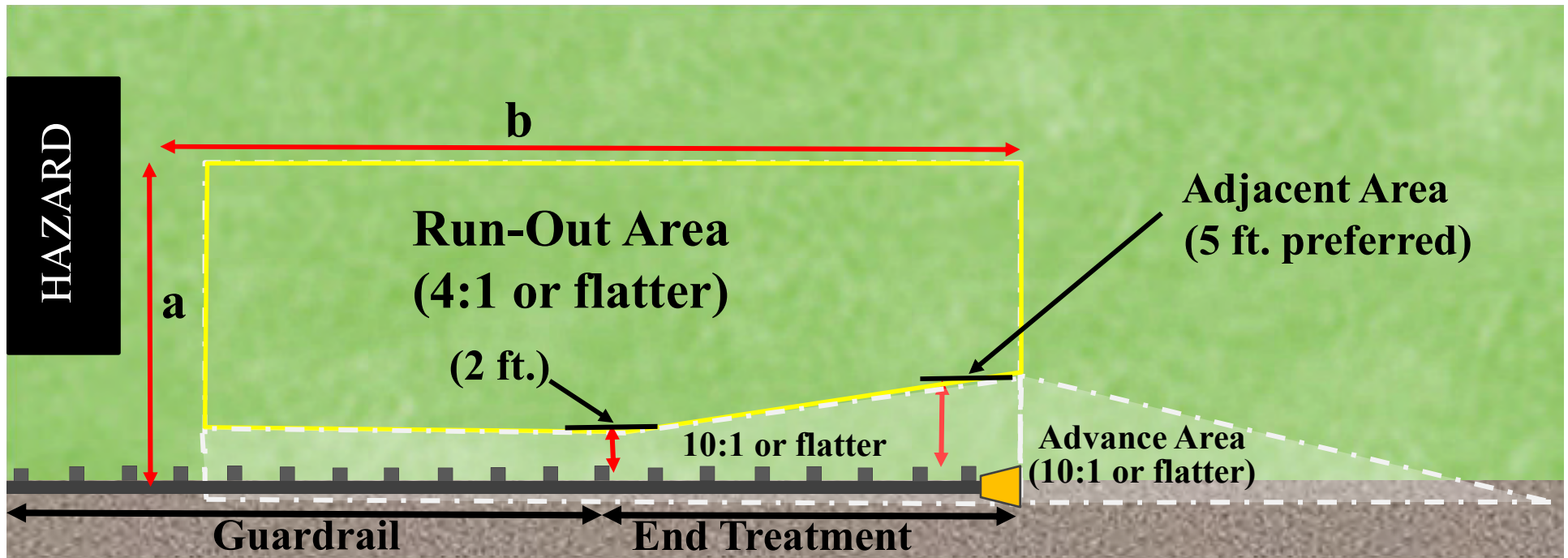
**4-48**

# End Treatment Grading Requirements

- **Runout Distance Grading** - refers to the area into which a vehicle may travel after impacting a terminal ahead of its length-of-need point.
  - The lateral runout distance directly behind a terminal ideally should be at least as wide as the roadside clear distance immediately upstream of terminal.
  - The minimum recovery obstacle-free area behind and beyond a terminal should be approximately 75 ft. long.

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Section 8.3.3.





- a** – Extend out to clear zone when practical; if not, it should be at least as wide as area upstream of the end treatment.
- b** – LON Required; when LON cannot be provided due to site conditions, a minimum of 75' from post 1 may be acceptable

# Flared End Treatment Grading - AASHTO

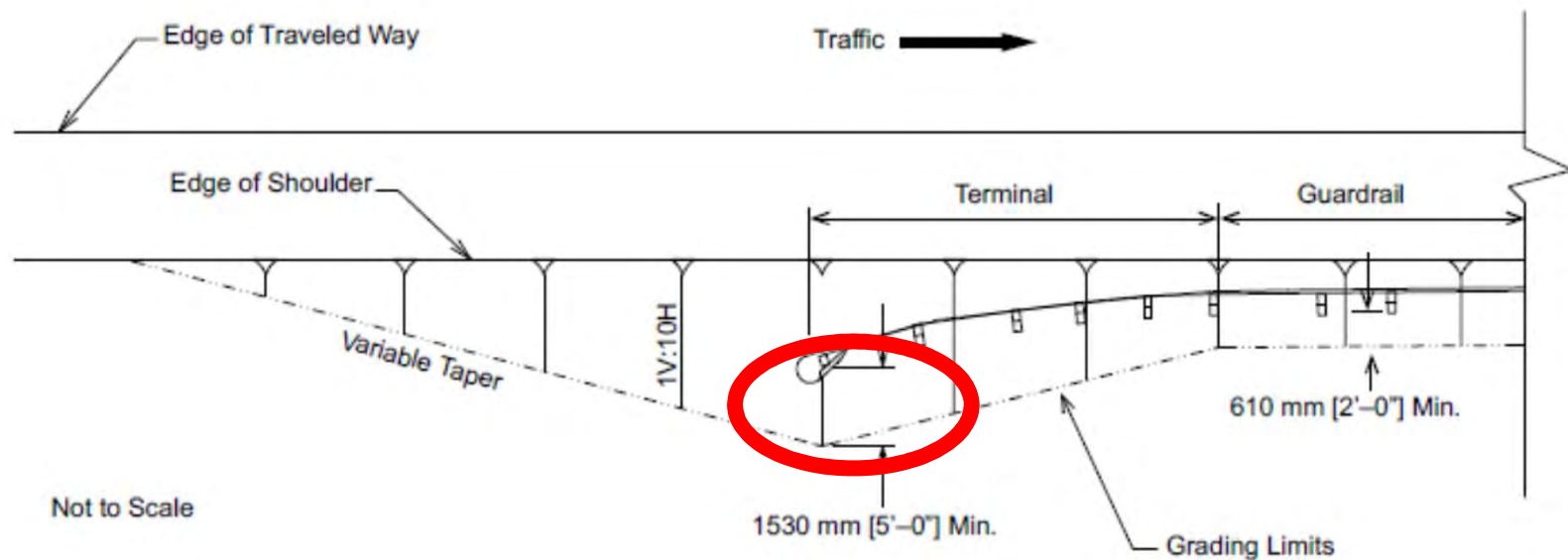


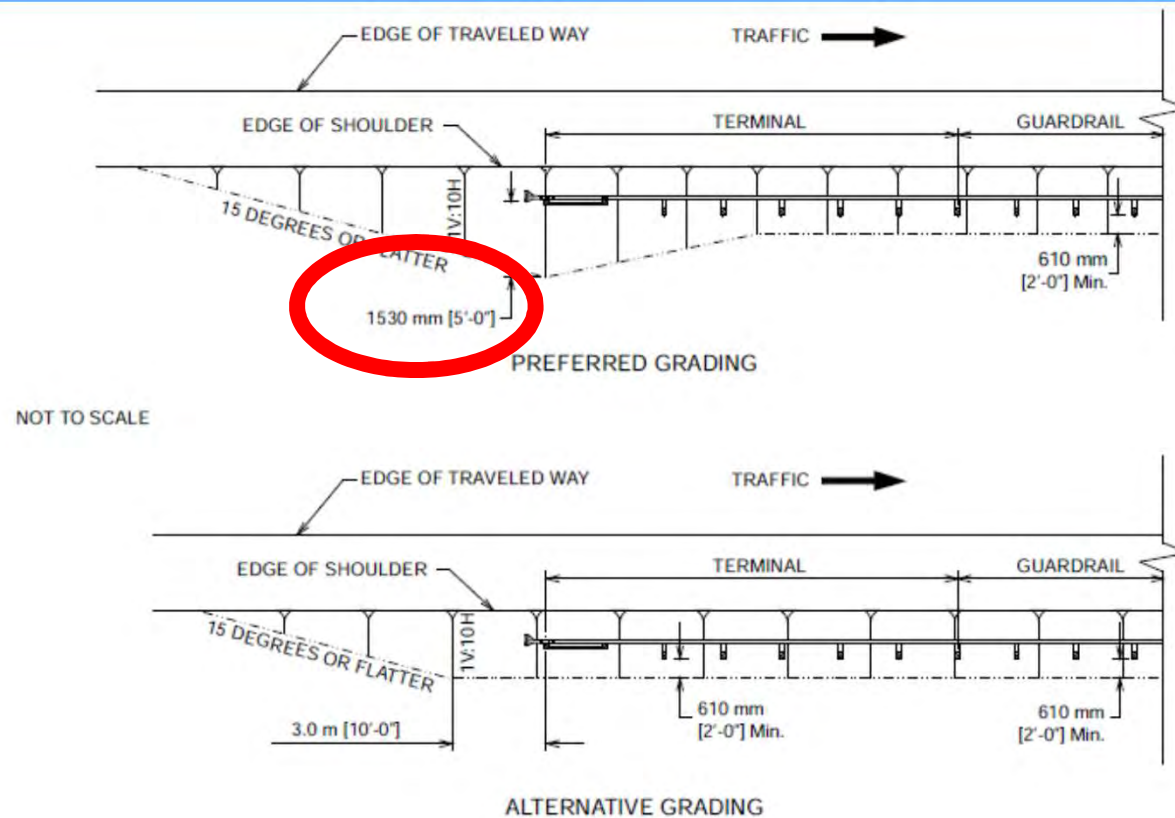
Figure 8-2. Grading for Flared Guardrail Terminal

End Treatments (Anchorages, Terminals, and Crash Cushions) 8-5

Must have this full grading if a flared end treatment is used



# Tangent End Treatment Grading - AASHTO



Note: The preferred grading layout should be used when practical. However, if necessary because of site limitations, the alternative grading layout may be used when upgrading an existing terminal.

Figure 8-3. Grading for Tangent Guardrail Terminal



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Session 4

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# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



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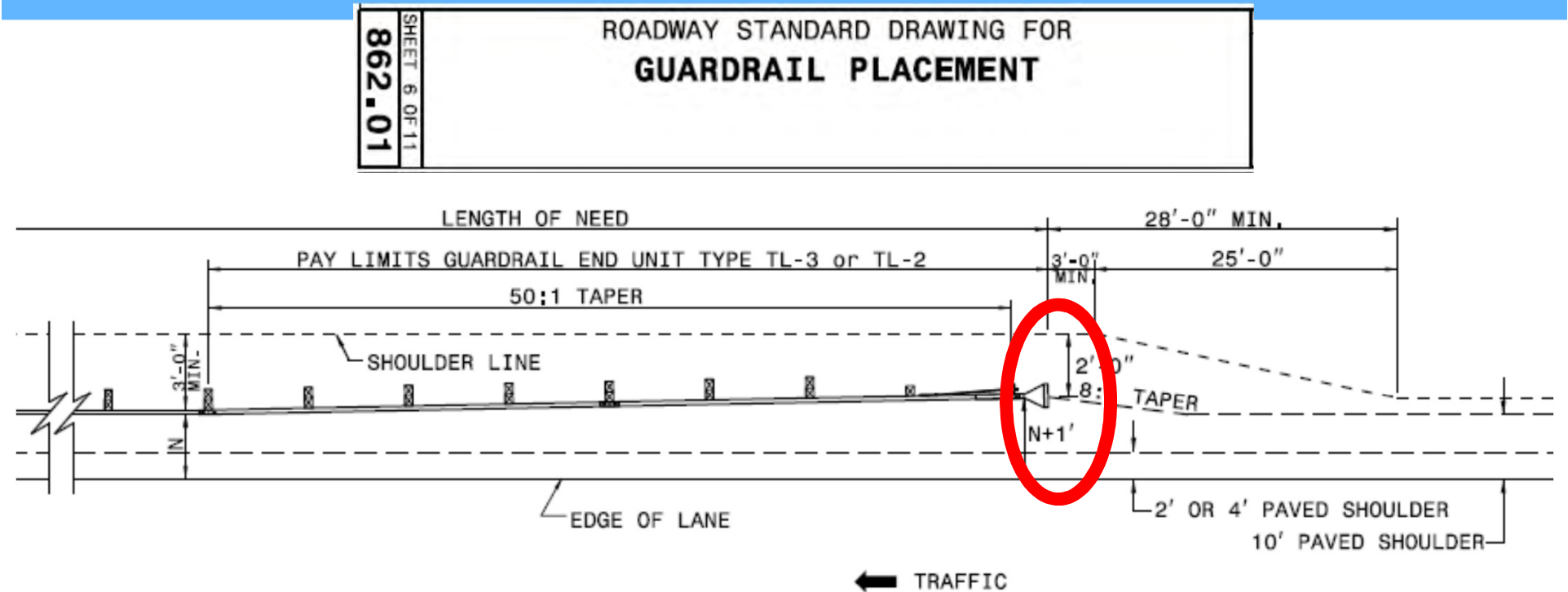
Session 4



4-53



# Tangent End Treatment Grading - NCDOT



## Need special Borrow bid item for 3R projects

## Need Special Provision for Density



# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO

No Stub problem, but could be better



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Session 4



4-55



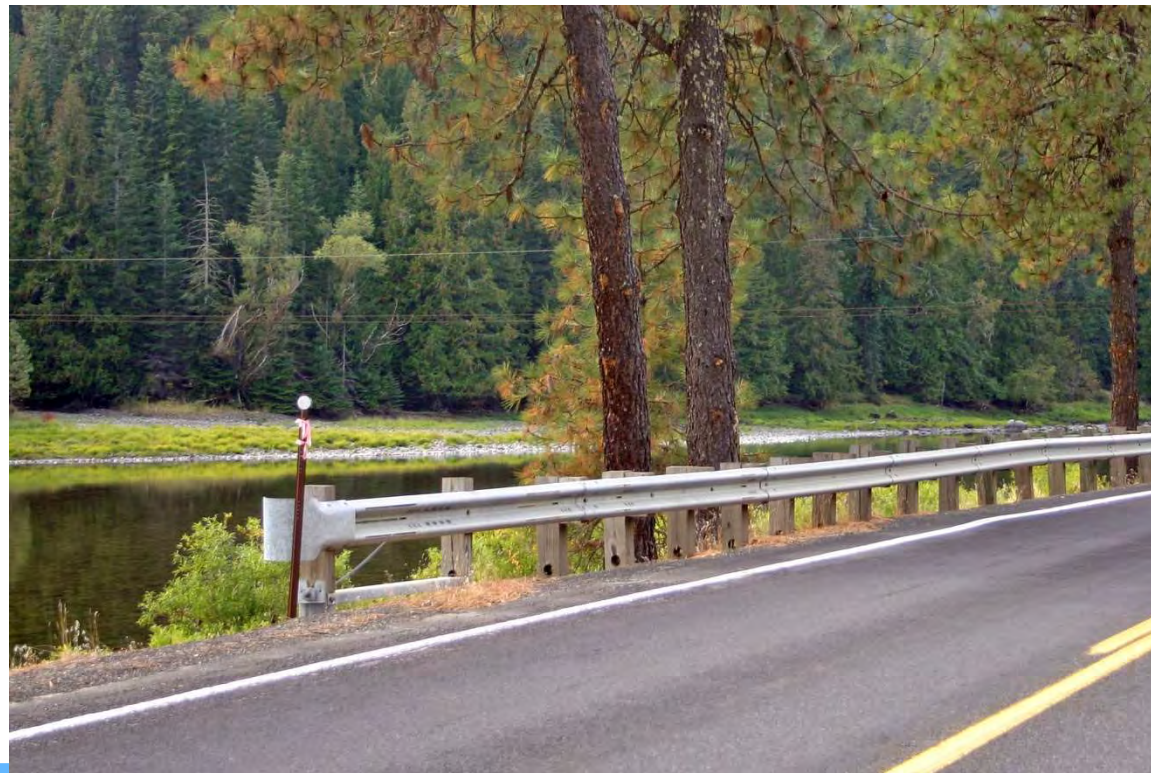
# Substandard Grading – DOCUMENT





# Thing to Remember about End Treatments

Non-Energy Absorbing End Treatments will not shield objects directly behind and within End Treatment limits



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Session 4

4-57



# Thing to Remember about End Treatments

Even Energy Absorbing End Treatment will not shield objects directly behind and within End Treatment limits



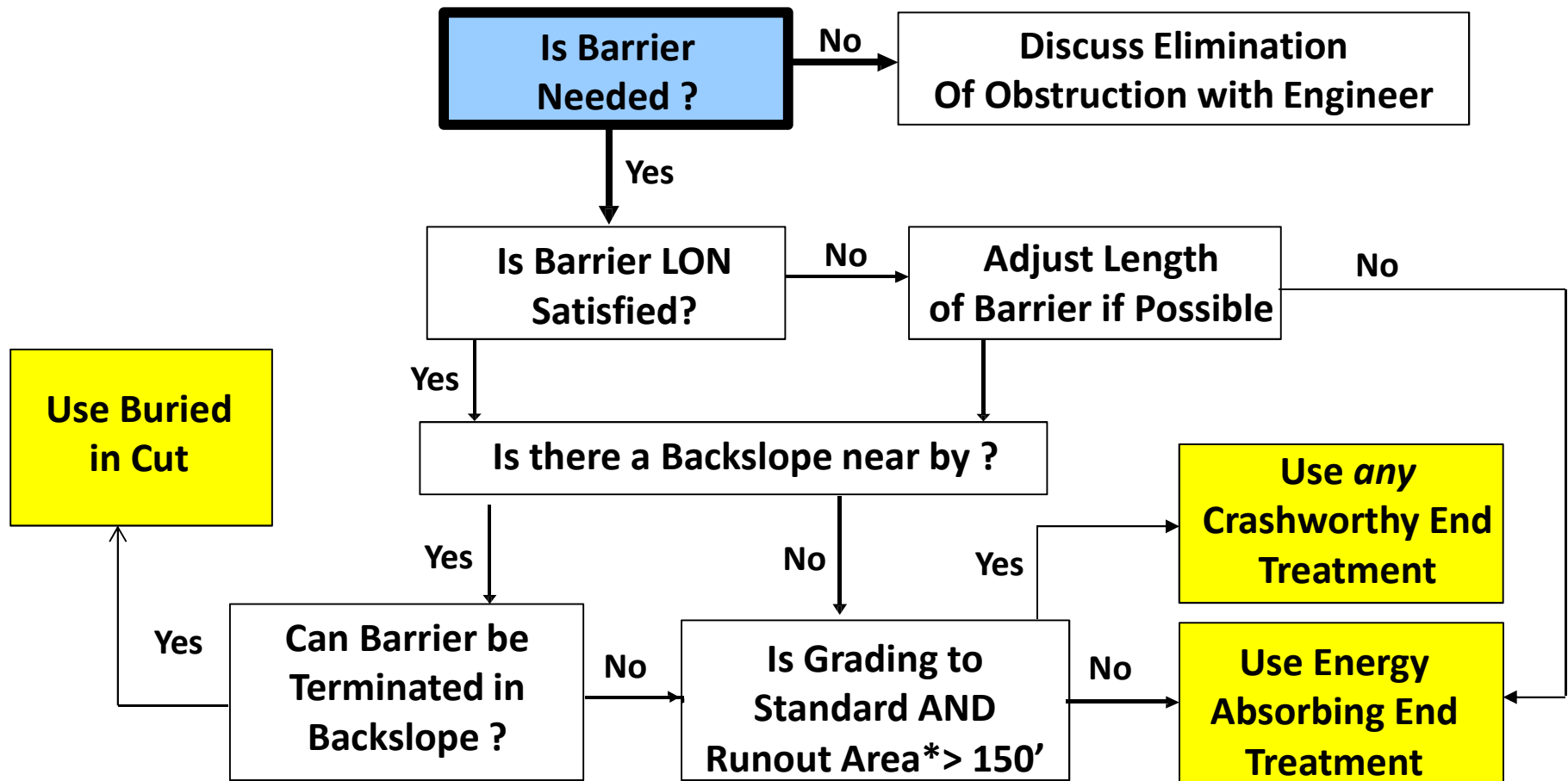
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# Suggested FHWA End Treatment Selection Flow Chart







# EXISTING END TREATMENTS



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**Session 4**



**4-60**

# Tangent Guardrail End Treatment Energy Absorbing

- SKT 350 (Sequential Kinking Terminal)(NCHRP 350)
  - Kinks panels when hit head-on or at a shallow angle
  - Wood or Steel post system (many options)
  - TL-3 at 50' long; BLON at 3<sup>rd</sup> Post
  - Cable-anchored, Compression system



Ref: FHWA Eligibility Letter CC-88 dated 3/8/05



# Tangent Guardrail End Treatment Energy Absorbing

- ET Plus (Guardrail Extruder Terminal)(NCHRP 350)
  - Flattens the rail element when hit head-on
  - Weakened wood or steel posts (several options available)
  - 50' long; attaches to either height w-beam system
  - BLON at 3<sup>rd</sup> Post
  - Cable-anchored, compression system



Ref: FHWA Eligibility Letter CC-12Q dated 3/15/10



# Non-crashworthy End Treatment Blunt End



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# Non-crashworthy End Treatment Turndown



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**Session 4**



**4-64**



# Turndown



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**4-65**



# Non-crashworthy End Treatment BCT Terminal

- Breakaway Cable Terminal (BCT) NCHRP 230
  - W-Beam rail with a parabolic curve and 4-ft offset.
  - No impact head or ground strut between the two end posts.
  - Only two breakaway posts.
  - Rail bolted to all posts.



For  
Identification  
Only

# Non-crashworthy End Treatment BCT Terminal



Failed Test! Causes spearing



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Session 4



4-67



# Guardrail End Treatments: Non-energy Absorbing – For Identification Only

## ➤ MELT – Modified Eccentric Loader Terminal

- W-Beam rail with an accentuated parabolic curve and 4-ft offset.
- Strut between the steel tubes foundation of the two end posts.
- 37'-6" long with 8 breakaway posts; BLON at Post #3.
- No rail-to-post bolts except at posts 1 and 8 and beyond.

For  
Identification  
Only



(NCHRP 350 TL-2)

# Guardrail End Treatments: W-Beam Median

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NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
*Connecting people, products, and places safely and efficiently with customer focus, accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy and vitality of North Carolina.*

BusinessDMVNewsroomPrograms

Approved Resources

Product Listing

Seeds

Producer/Supplier

Technician Certification

Minimum Sampling Guide

Business »

**Approved Products List**

Product ID (ex. NPYX-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group:

Product Category:End Treatments

Product Status:

SearchReset

Product ID	Plant ID	Company Name	Product Group	Product Category	Product Name	Model Number	Product Status	Description
<a href="#">NP11-5773</a>		Road Systems, Inc.	Guardrail and Delineators (862) (1088)	End Treatments	MFLEAT		Approved	MASH tested, Guardrail End Terminal
<a href="#">NP17-7848</a>	GR44	Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Guardrail and Delineators (862) (1088)	End Treatments	Max-Tension End Treatment		Approved	MASH tested;Telescoping, tension-based guardrail end terminal with an energy absorbing coupler that features a cutting tooth design.
<a href="#">NP18-8095</a>		Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Guardrail and Delineators (862) (1088)	End Treatments	MAX-Tension Median Guardrail Terminal		Approved	Telescoping, tension-based terminal with an energy absorbing coupler that features a cutting tooth design.



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Session 4

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# Guardrail End Treatments: W-Beam Median

- MAX-Tension Median (MASH 16)
  - The MAX system utilizes tensioned cables, telescoping panels, and a cutting tooth to absorb the kinetic energy and safely contain or redirect impacting – **works primarily in tension**
  - TL-3 at ~50' long; BLON at Post 3 (~13'-4"); 31" only



# MASH MAX-Tension Median



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**Session 4**



**4-71**



# Impact Attenuator

Crash test with blunt end:



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4-72

# Impact Attenuator

Crash test with ramped end:



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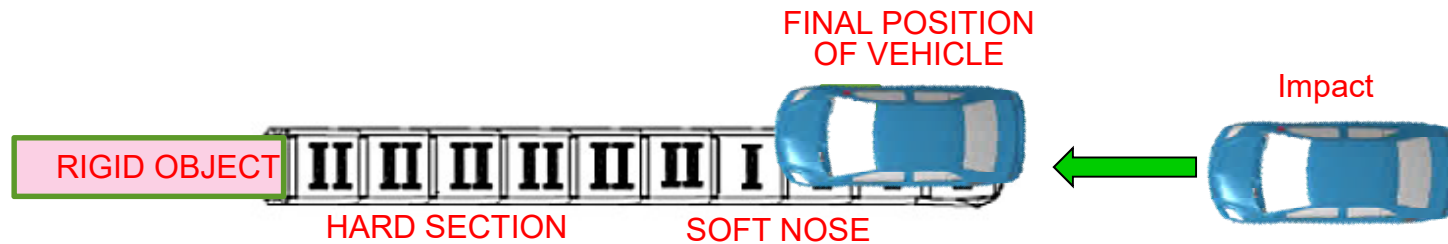
Session 4



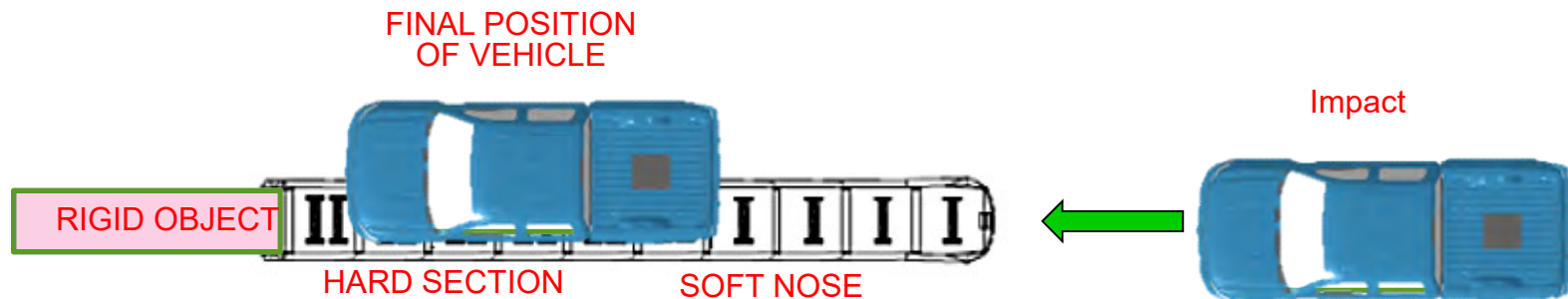
4-73



# Impact Attenuator Theory



Soft nose to bring a small car to a controlled stop



Harder back section to bring a pick-up truck to a controlled stop



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Session 4

4-74

# Impact Attenuator, Sacrificial - Water Filled

## ➤ Water-filled Barriers

### **Absorb M (MASH) / Sled(MASH) / ACZ 350 / TRITON CET**

- Individual crash cushion designs vary by manufacturer, but they all function in a similar manner.
- Vehicles impacting the nose at an angle will **not** be redirected.
- No appreciable re-directive capability under most impact conditions.
- Typically used in work zones to shield temporary concrete barrier.



# Impact Attenuator, Sacrificial - Water Filled

## Approved Products List

Product ID (ex. NPYY-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group:

Product Category: WZTC - Category III

<a href="#">NP11-5771</a>	Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Work Zone Traffic Control	WZTC - Category III	Absorb 350		Approved for Provisional Use	*Must be approved by Steve Kite (919-814-4937) prior to use on NCDOT project.* The ABSORB 350 is a non-redirective, gating water filled crash cushion that has been successfully tested to NCHRP Report 350 TL-2&3.
<a href="#">NP11-5884</a>	Traffix Devices, Inc.	Work Zone Traffic Control	WZTC - Category III	SLED	Series 45044	Approved	PE Water Filled Crash Cushion w/Galvanized Steel Cables molded inside.NCHRP-350 for Test Level 1,2or3.Use as end treatment/crash cushion.
<a href="#">NP16-7335</a>	Trinity Highway Products	Work Zone Traffic Control	WZTC - Category III	ACZ-350 Water Filled Crash Cushion	ACZ-350	Approved for Provisional Use	The ACZ-350 is a narrow, non-redirecting TL-2 and TL-3 impact attenuator
<a href="#">NP99-3106</a>	GR10 Energy Absorption Systems, Inc.	Work Zone Traffic Control	WZTC - Category III	Triton Barrier	Triton Barrier	Approved	The Triton Barrier® is a highly portable, water-filled barrier. Performance meets the FHWA NCHRP 350 TL-2 or TL-3 (with TL-3 kit) standard for longitudinal re-redirective barrier. The Triton Barrier is certified as its own end treatment.



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**Session 4**

**4-76**

# Impact Attenuator, Sacrificial - Water Filled



Absorb M (MASH)



ACZ-350



Sled (MASH)



TRITON barrier CET



# Water Filled



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**Session 4**



**4-78**

# Impact Attenuator, Sacrificial – Sand Barrel

## Non-Redirective and Gating

- Individual barrel designs vary in shape by manufacturer, but they all function the same
- Arrays of sand barrels may be designed to shield any shape hazard
- Impacting vehicles will not be redirected.
- Since no re-directive capability, the corner of the hazard must be reasonably shielded.



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**Session 4**

**4-79**



# Impact Attenuator, Sacrificial – Sand Barrel

## ➤ Sand Barrels:



Energite



TraFFix Big Sandy (MASH)

Not Normally Used



CrashGard



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4-80

# Sand Barrels – Good Application



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**Session 4**



**4-81**



# Sand-Filled Array



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**Session 4**



**4-82**

# Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating

Non-gating as follows:

- Contains and redirects vehicles impacting along the sides of the device essentially its entire length
- Contains vehicles impacting the nose either head-on or at a 15° angle.
- Approved for TL-2 (350) & TL-3 systems.
- Designed to shield a point hazard; either attached or stand alone.



# Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating

## Approved Products List

Product ID (ex. NPYX-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group:

Product Category:

**MASH**

## NCHRP 350 - Allowed if Conditions Mandate

<a href="#">NP19-8389</a>	Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating	Universal TAU-M	Approved	MASH compliant re-directive, non-gating anchored, partially reusable compression-based crash cushion
<a href="#">NP02-1527</a>	Lindsay Transportation Solutions	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating	Universal TAU-II	Approved	The Universal TAU-II is a redirective, non-gating crash cushion. The system is available in lengths and capacities for both low and high speed applications
<a href="#">NP03-4111</a>	Trinity Highway Products	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating	WIDE TRACC N/A	Approved for Provisional Use	the WideTRACC is test level 3 crash cushion and is available in varying lengths and widths. can be configured for any appropriate width application.



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**Session 4**

**4-84**

# Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating

- TAU-M (MASH) and TAU IIR Systems (NCHRP 350)
  - Can be attached directly to a W-beam or Thrie-beam median barrier as well as to a concrete safety shape.
  - Designed to attach to a median barrier.
  - Common set of parts for 36" to 102" widths in 6" increments (350)
  - Consists of Thrie-beam panels, expendable (MASH) or self-restoring (R) (350) absorbing cartridges, steel diaphragms and two cables at the bottom to provide redirection.





# Impact Attenuators, Non-Gating - Typical

## QuadGuard M10 Tests CC-112



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**Session 4**

**4-86**

# Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle

## Approved Products List

Product ID (ex. NPYX-xxxx):

Company Name:

Product Name:

Product Group:

Product Category:

## MASH

<a href="#">NP16-7403</a>	Energy Absorption Systems, Inc.	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle	Quadguard Elite	N/A	Approved for Provisional Use	<p><b>MASH</b></p> <p>***Contact NCDOT Mobility and Safety Field Operations prior to use at 919-773-2800***The QuadGuard Elite System offers the added value of reusable cylinders for applications with above average impact frequency. After a typical design impact, the system is</p>
<a href="#">NP16-7404</a>	Hill and Smith	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle	Smart Cushion Innovations	SCI100GM	Approved	
<a href="#">NP16-7405</a>	Hill and Smith	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle	Smart Cushion Innovations	SCI70GM	Approved	Test Level II Crash Attenuator
<a href="#">NP16-7406</a>	TrafFix Devices, Inc.	Guardrail and Delineators (862)(1088)	Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle	Compressor System Crash Cushion	55000 Series	Approved	Low Maintenance, Severe-Duty, Self-Restoring, Re-Directive Impact Attenuator. NCHRP-350 approved as TL-3. Designed for repeated impacts with no need for repair. For use in Uni-directional or Bi-Directional applications up to 96 wide



# Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle

- SCI Smart Cushion (MASH)
  - Variable Reaction Force
  - Re-usable with minimal component replacement
  - Needs repair before next hit



# Example – Low Cost



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**Session 4**



**4-89**



# Impact Attenuators, Life Cycle

- QuadGuard Elite (MASH)
  - Uses High Density Polyethylene cylinders to absorb energy
  - Essentially for use in locations where a high number of hits is anticipated.



REF: FHWA Eligibility Letter CC-57E dated 12/18/15

# Example - Self Restoring



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**4-91**



# Very Appropriate Use



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Session 4



4-92

# Review Learning Outcomes

- Understand how end treatments and impact attenuators are tested for crashworthiness
- Identify common end treatments and impact attenuators
- Understand how these systems function
- Choose the appropriate system for a specific site



North Carolina Department of Transportation

# Highway Safety Barrier Design Training

## Session 5: Design Principles



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**Session 5**



**5-1**

# Session 5 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

Understand the design principles affecting an optimal barrier installation.



# Order of Preference

1. Remove hazard
2. Redesign hazard (make traversable)
3. Relocate hazard (move away from traffic)
4. Reduce Impact Severity ( use breakaway design)
5. SHIELD hazard
6. Delineate hazard so motorist can avoid

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Pg. 1-4



# Barriers Must Be Less of a Hazard



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Session 5



5-4



# Guardrail Placement

**Place AS FAR AWAY  
as Possible**

*without affecting function*

# Barrier Design Principles

1. Deflection
2. Slope in Front of Barrier
3. Guardrail and Curb
4. Soil Backing for Fill Locations
5. Flare Rate

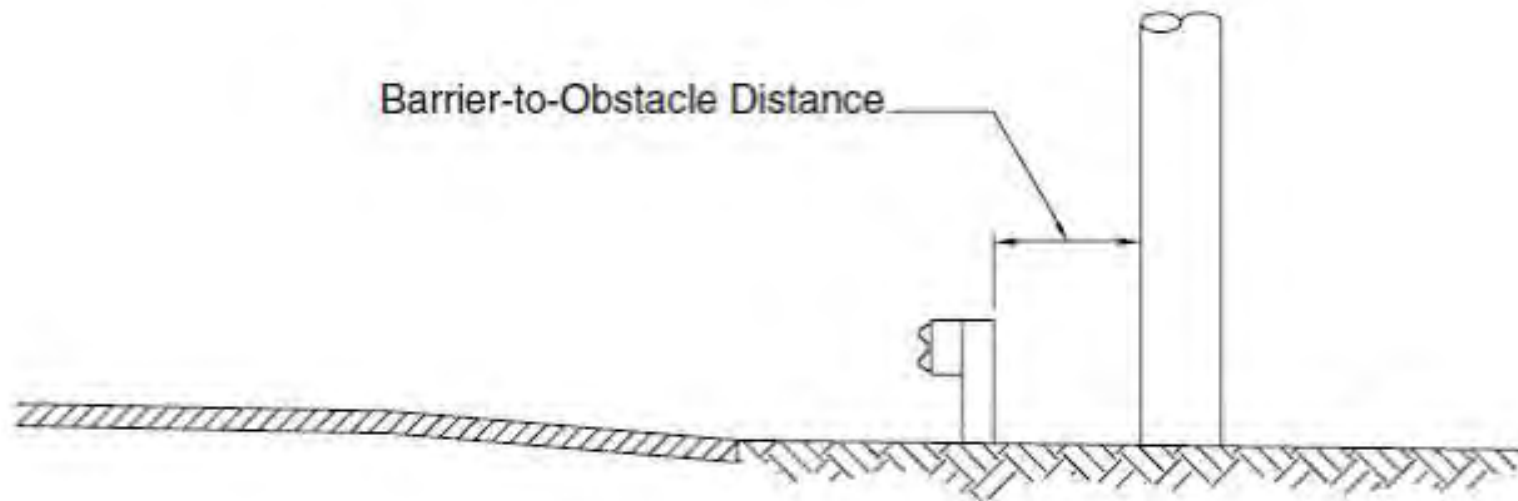


# Principle 1: Deflection

Adequate room must be left behind the barrier to allow for lateral deflection in an impact.

- If the barrier is shielding a vertical rigid object, the distance between the barrier and the object should be sufficient to avoid the vehicle impacting or snagging on the object.
- Note that, even for rigid barriers with no lateral deflection, large vehicles may roll behind the top of the barrier even if the barrier itself does not deflect.

# Deflection Distance



**Figure 5-33. Recommended Barrier Placement for Optimum Performance**

Ref: AASHTO ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE, 4<sup>th</sup> EDITION – Figure 5-33



# Deflection



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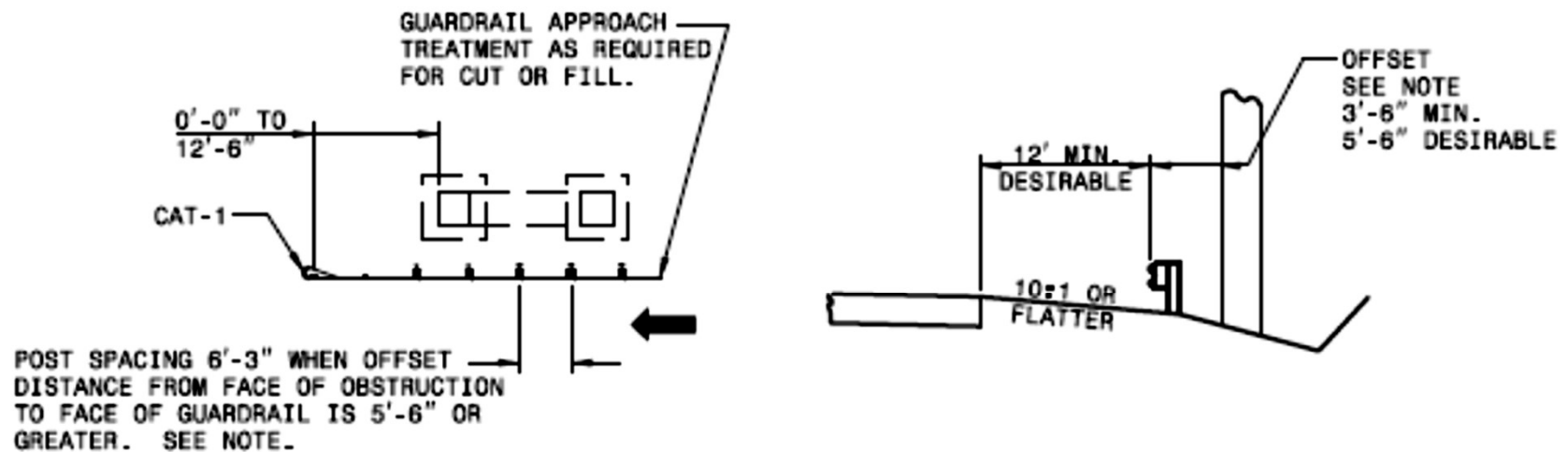
**Session 5**



**5-9**



# Deflection Distance - NCDOT



NOTE: WHEN OFFSET DISTANCE FROM FACE OF OBSTRUCTION TO FACE OF GUARDRAIL IS BETWEEN 3'-6" AND 5'-6", BEGIN 3'-11 1/2" POST SPACING AT A POINT 25' BEFORE REACHING THE OBSTRUCTION AND CARRY THROUGHOUT ITS LENGTH. IF THE OFFSET IS LESS THAN 3'-6" USE CONCRETE BARRIER.

## DETAIL OF RIGHT SIDE GUARDRAIL AT UNDERPASS

Ref: NCDOT Standard Drawing 862.01, Sht 1



NCDOT



Session 5



5-10



# Quarter Post Spacing

Successfully tested to MASH

Deflection distance = 19"; therefore offset from face of rail is 3'

Must start stiffening at 50' before hard point:  
25' of half post guardrail; 25' of quarter post guardrail



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**Session 5**

**5-11**

# Principle 2: Slope in Front of Barrier



Any barrier may be placed anywhere on a 10H:1V or flatter slope.



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5-12



# Principle 2: Slope in Front of Barrier



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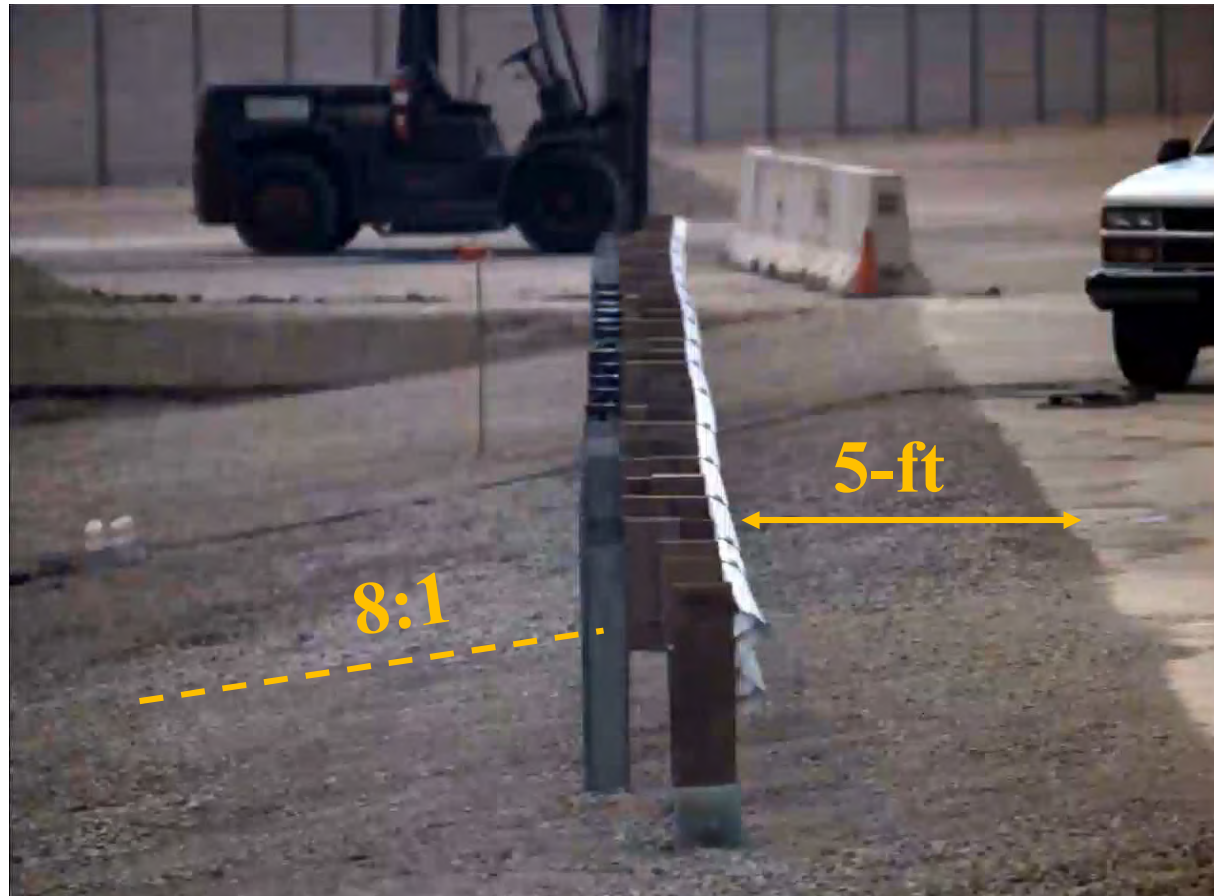


**Session 5**



**5-13**

# NCHRP 350 TL-3 31" on 8:1 Slope



Vehicle is contained and redirected but shows instability



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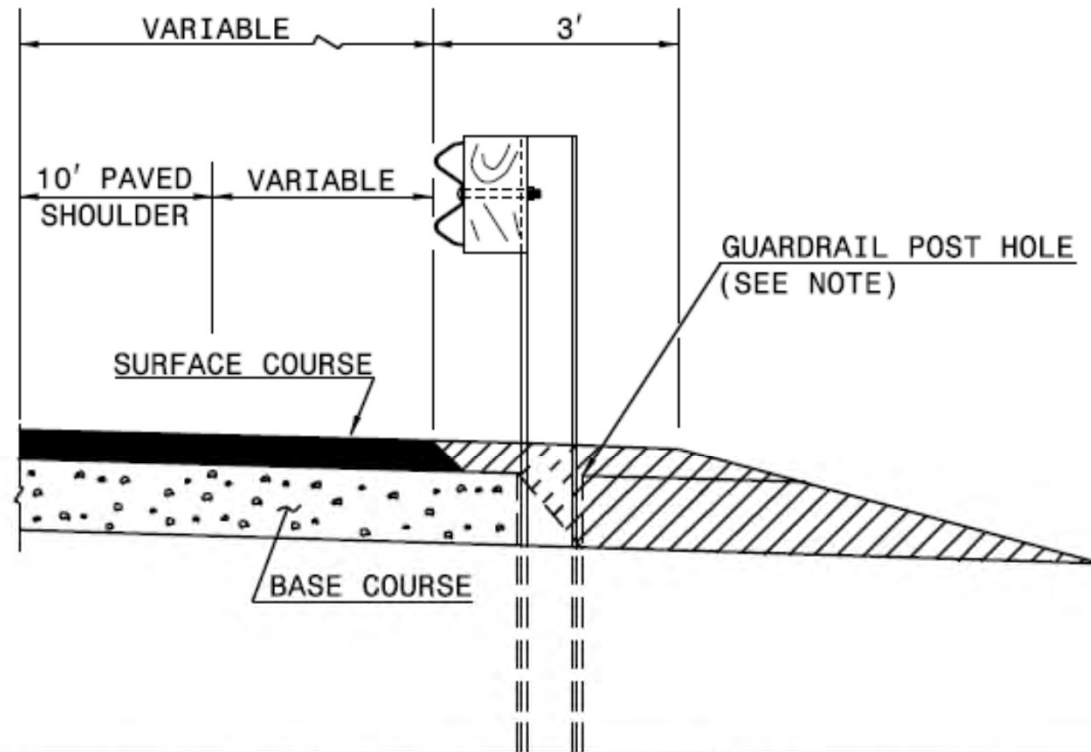
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5-14



# Slope in Front of Barrier

IMPLIED –  
FLAT



862.01 SHEET 100F 11	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT</b>	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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5-15



# Barrier in Sloped Median - Old System (29") ONLY -



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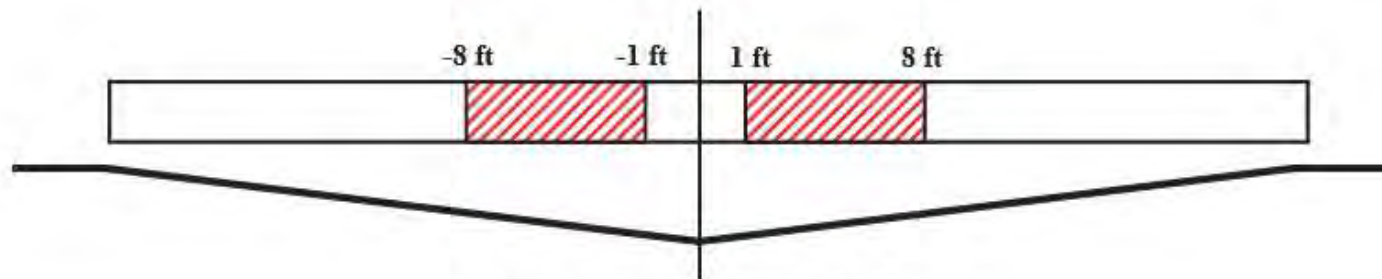
**Session 5**

**5-16**



# Slope in Front of Cable Barrier

- Cable barrier may be placed anywhere on a 10:1 or flatter slope.
- Cable barrier may be placed on slopes of 6:1, but not in the area from 1 ft. to 8 ft. from the ditch bottom.



(a) Medians shallower than 6H:1V slope (NCHRP Report 711)

Ref: AASHTO ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE, 4<sup>th</sup> EDITION – 6.6.1.1, Pg. 6-18



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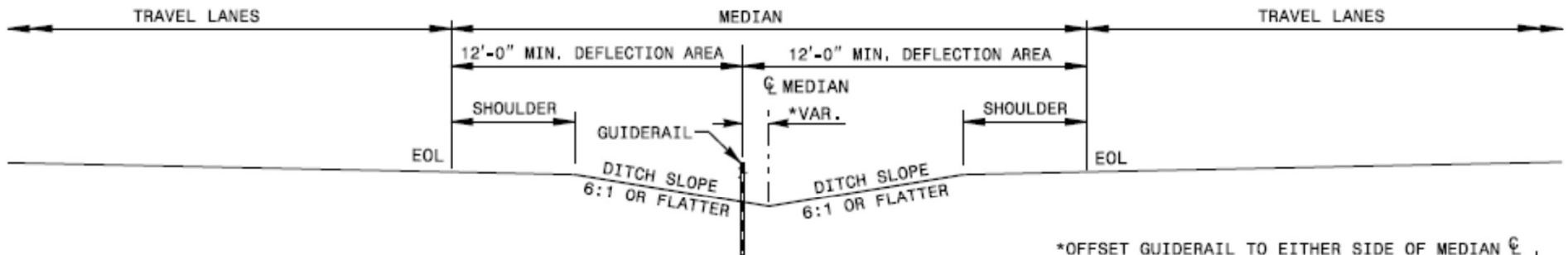


**Session 5**



**5-17**

# NCDOT Slope/Swale Guidance - LTC



\*OFFSET GUIDERAIL TO EITHER SIDE OF MEDIAN Q ,  
USE 8'-0" MIN. OFFSET FOR MEDIANS 60' AND OVER,  
USE 4'-0" MIN. OFFSET FOR MEDIANS LESS THAN 60'.

**TYPICAL SECTION**  
(DEFLECTION AREA ON MEDIAN SLOPES)  
**DOUBLE FACE GUIDERAIL APPLICATION**

USE 4'-0" MIN. OFFSET FOR MEDIANS LESS THAN 60'.

**Strongly  
Discouraged**





# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



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**Session 5**



**5-19**



# Barrier in Sloped Median



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**Session 5**

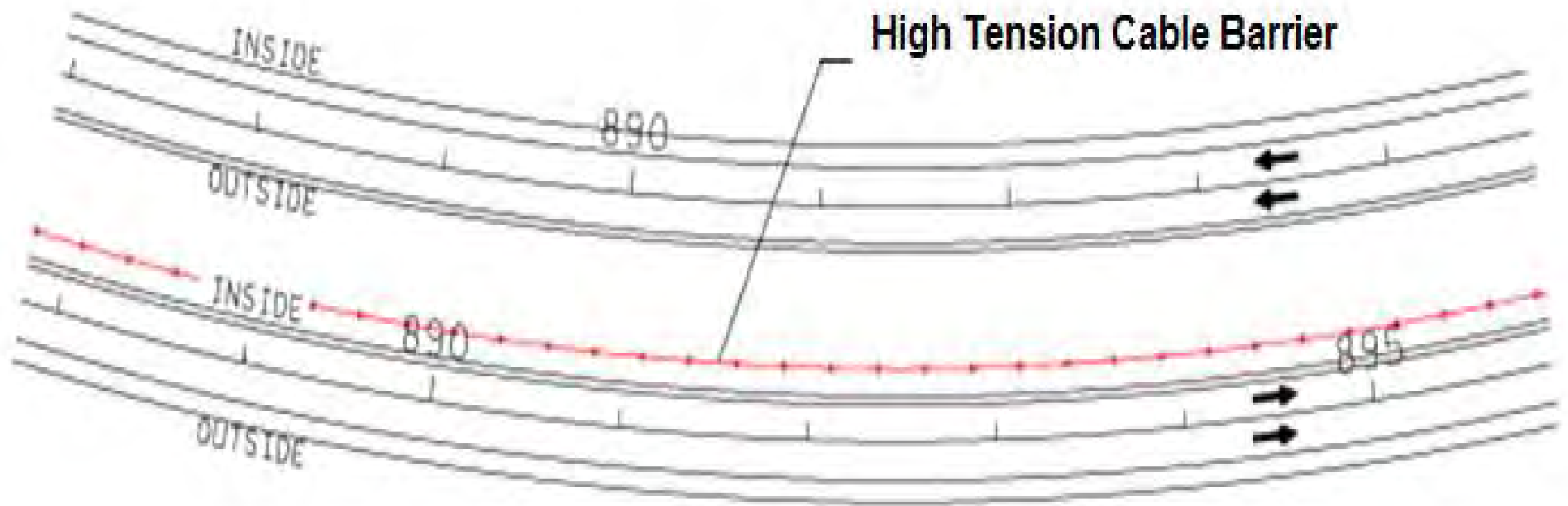


**5-20**



# Barrier in a Curved Median

Which Side of the Median Should the Cable Barrier be Placed?



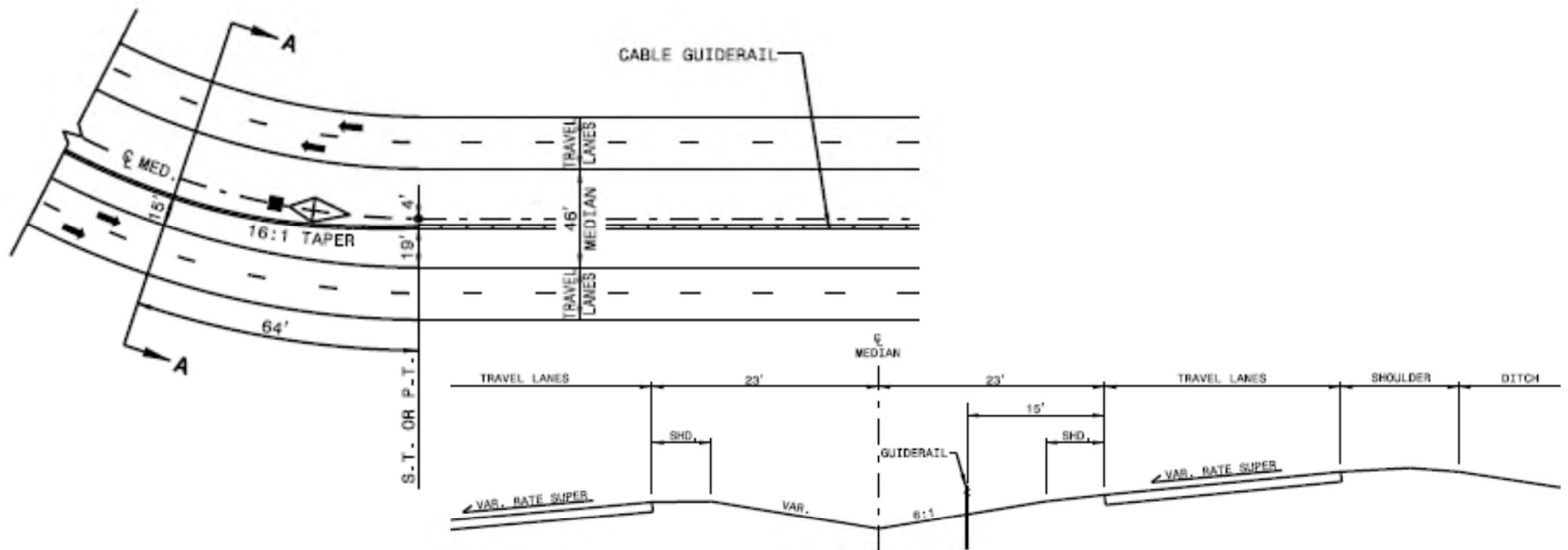
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**Session 5**

**5-21**

# Barrier in a Curved Median



SECTION A-A

865.01 SHEET 3 OF 12	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR
	<b>CABLE GUIDERAIL</b>
	46' MEDIAN GUIDERAIL TRANSITIONS WITH SUPERELEVATION AND/OR FALSE SUMPS



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Session 5

5-22



# Principle 3: Guardrail and Curbs



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**Session 5**



**5-23**



# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO

6" Curb not acceptable for old 29" System on HS



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Session 5



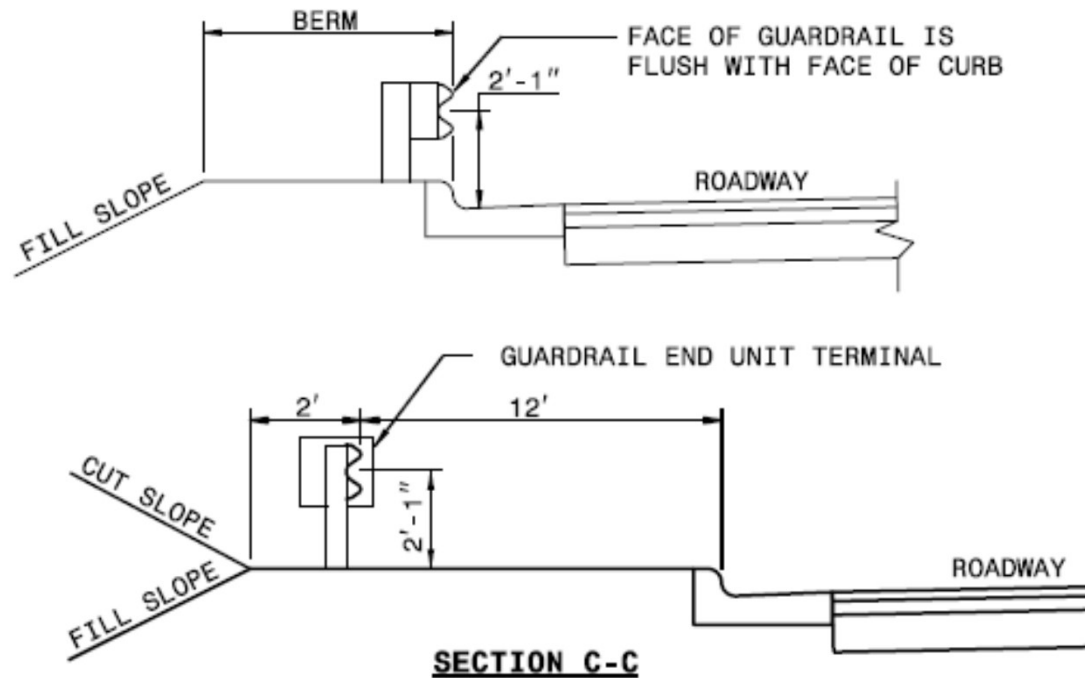
5-24



# Guardrail and Curbs

- Curbs may function to channelize traffic, to control drainage, improve delineation, control access, and reduce erosion.
- Curbs are not adequate to prevent a vehicle from leaving the roadway; they are not a barrier.
- Use of any guardrail/curb combination where high-speed, high-angle impacts are likely should be discouraged.

# NCDOT Guardrail and Curbs



SHEET 11 OF 11 862.01	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR <b>GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT</b> GUARDRAIL TREATMENT AT CURB AND GUTTER	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
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Ref: NCDOT Standard Drawings, 862.01 Sht. 11



# Guardrail and Curbs – 29"



**NC DOT**



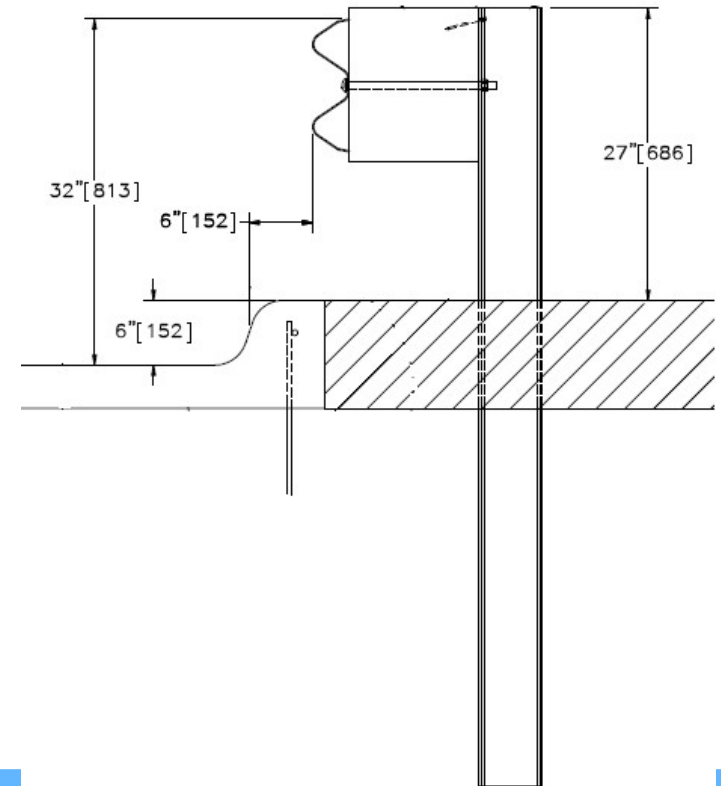
**Session 5**



**5-27**

# 31" and Curbs

Successfully tested to MASH placed 6" behind a 6" high curb at TL-3



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**Session 5**

**5-28**



# MASH TL-3 31"

## Placed 6" behind 6" high Curb



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**Session 5**



**5-29**

# 31" and Curbs

- The 31" was tested with a 6" curb, 8' in front of the rail at MASH TL-3 **unsuccessful**





# End Treatments and Curbs

As stated previously, the GRAU-350 is a tangential end unit. However, these units will be flared over the last 50 feet to provide a 1-foot offset. This minimal flare allows the terminal to be offset so that no component of the unit extends beyond the face of the guardrail. The tangential end unit should not be flared greater than a 50:1 flare rate.

No curb is allowed within the limits of this unit.



# End Treatments and Curbs



**CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY –  
DO NOT BURY BEARING PLATE**

**2" maximum height recommended**



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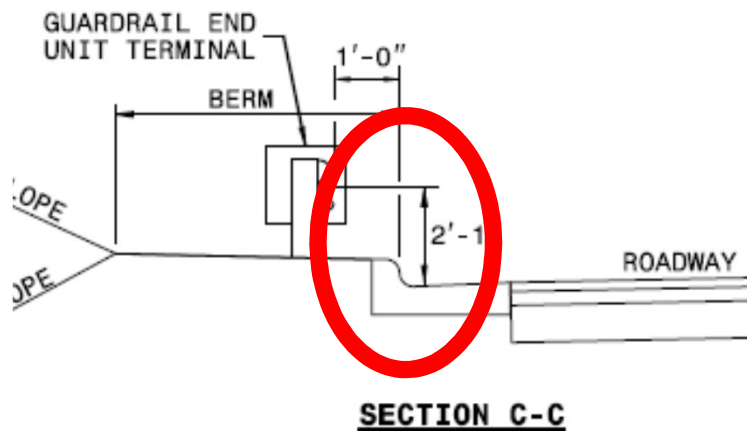
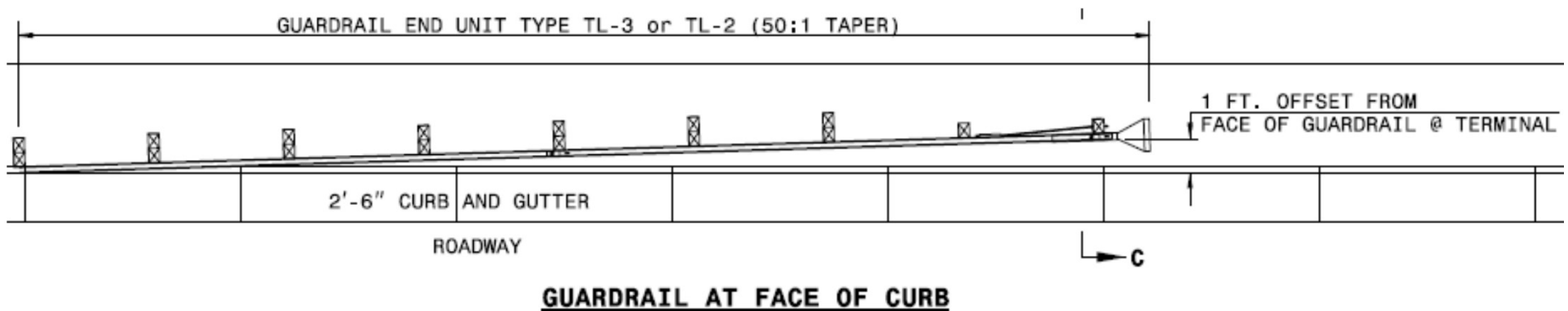
**Session 5**



**5-32**



# End Treatments and Curbs - NCDOT



Careful with BCA  
Terminal Anchor –  
Don't let Bearing  
Plate be buried

Ref: NCDOT Standard Drawings, 862.01 Sht. 11





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## Session 5



5-34



# MASH TL-2 31" 6 ft. behind curb



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**Session 5**



**5-35**



# Principle 4: Soil Backing For Fill Locations



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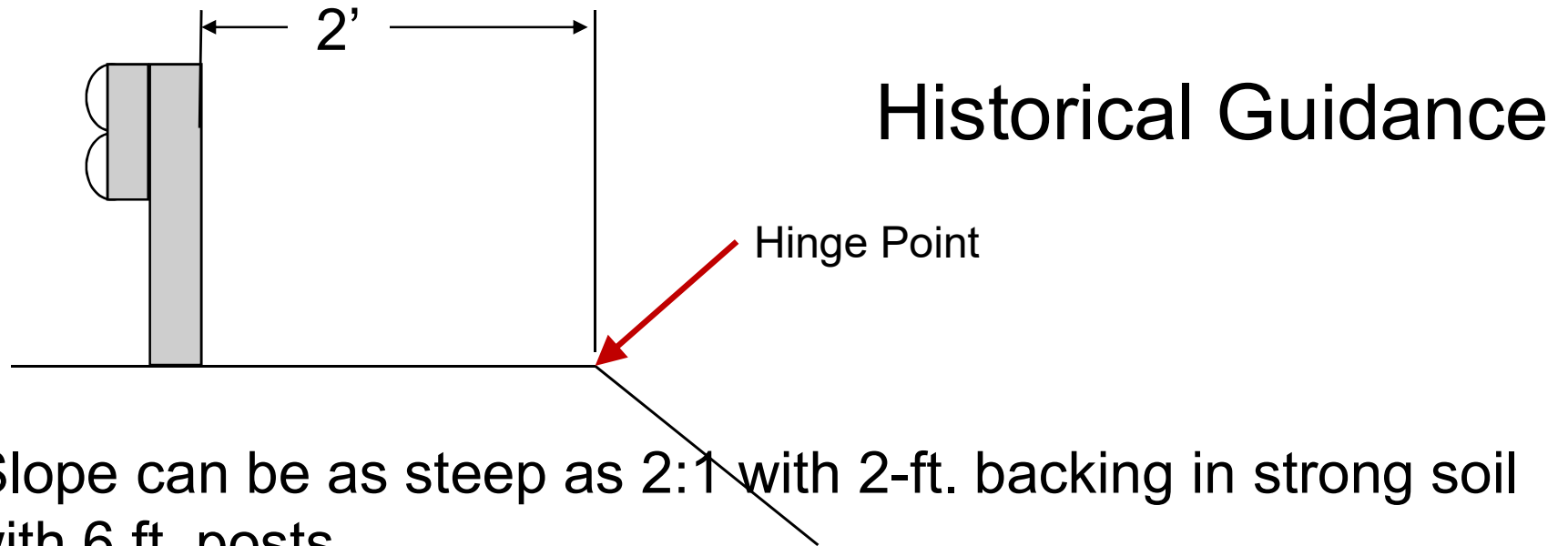
**Session 5**



**5-36**



# Soil Backing Recommendation



1. Slope can be as steep as 2:1 with 2-ft. backing in strong soil with 6 ft. posts.
2. Backing can be less than 2 ft. with 2:1 slope in strong soil with 7 ft. posts. NCHRP 350 requires half post spacing – **ONLY applies to 29" system**

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Figure 5.33, Pg. 5-41



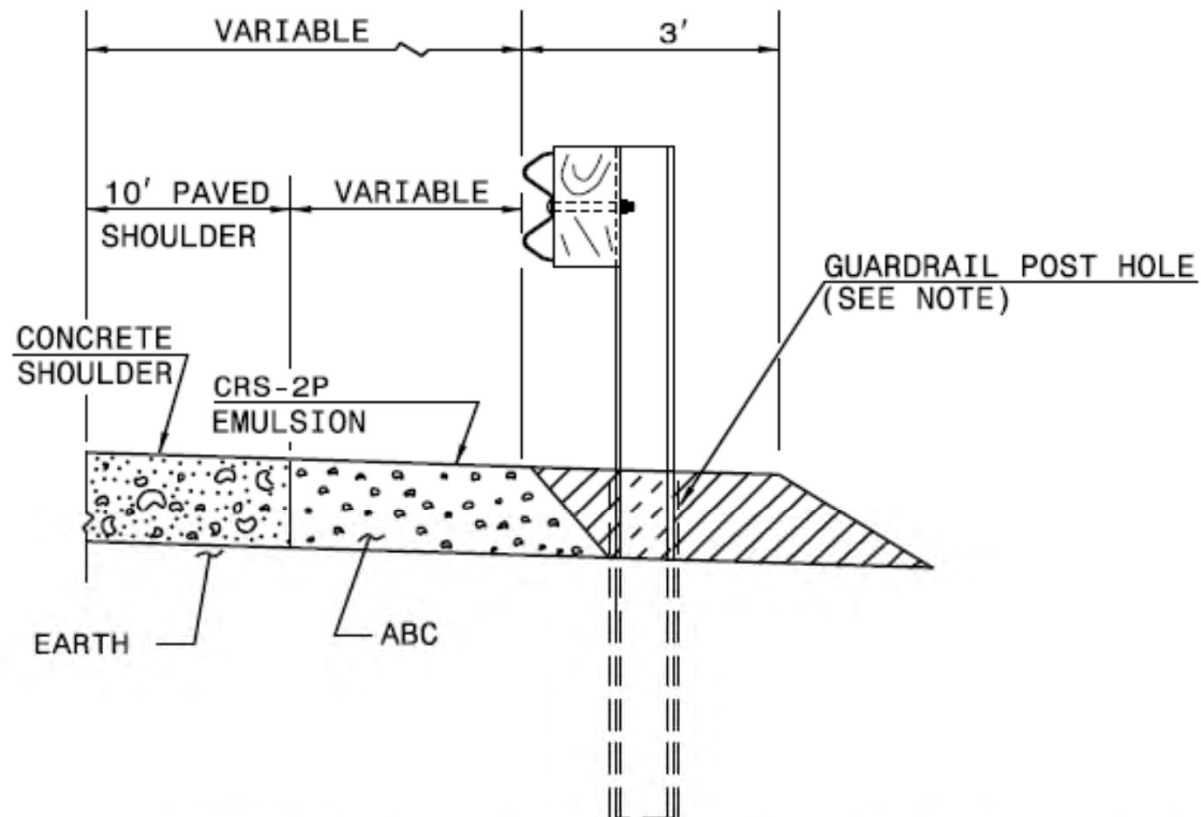
**NCDOT**



**Session 5**

**5-37**

# Soil Backing – NCDOT



862.01  
SHEET 100F 11

ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR  
**GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT**

1-18  
STATE OF  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
RALEIGH, N.C.



**NCDOT**

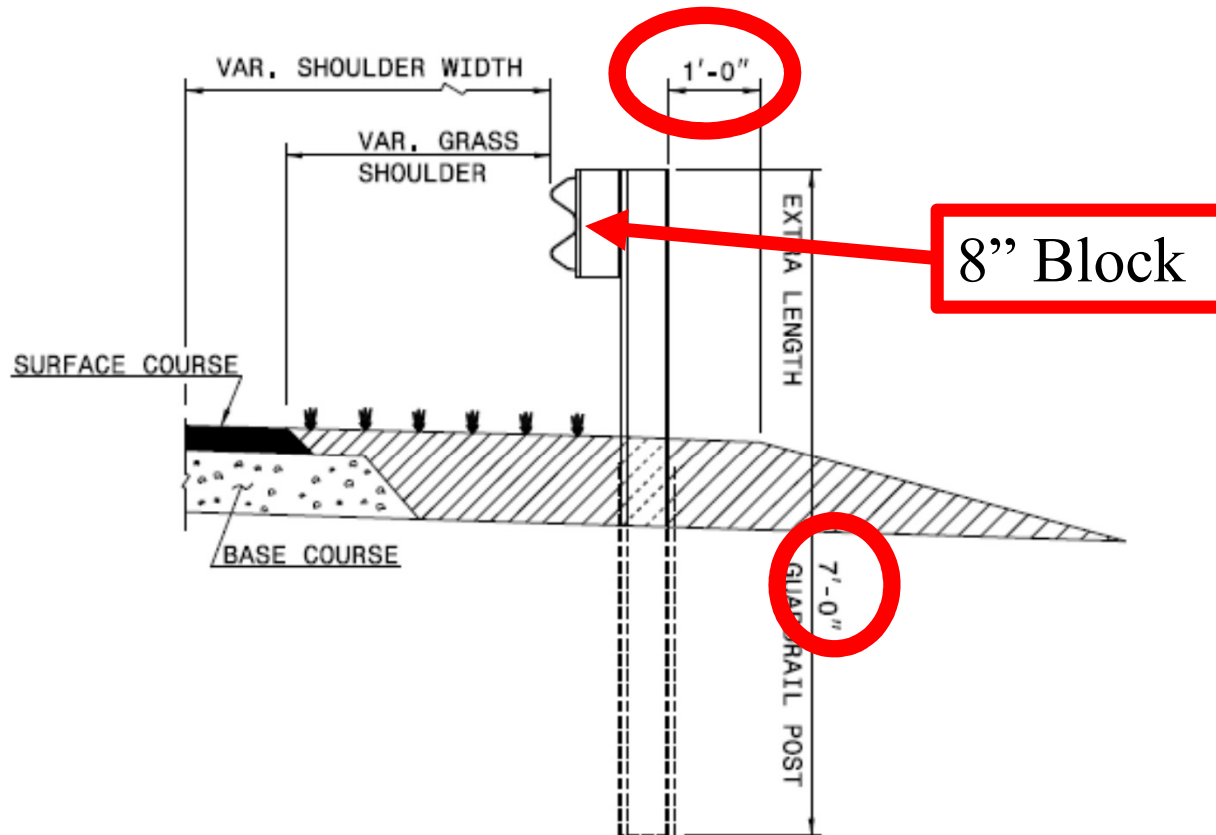


Session 5

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# Soil Backing – NCDOT



<b>CONTRACT STANDARDS AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT</b>			
Office 919-707-6950		FAX 919-250-4119	
<b>7' GUARDRAIL POST</b>			
ORIGINAL BY:	L. Robinson	DATE:	1999
MODIFIED BY:	L. Robinson	DATE:	Feb, 1999
CHECKED BY:		DATE:	
FILE SPEC:	at2transpecat1.dgn		



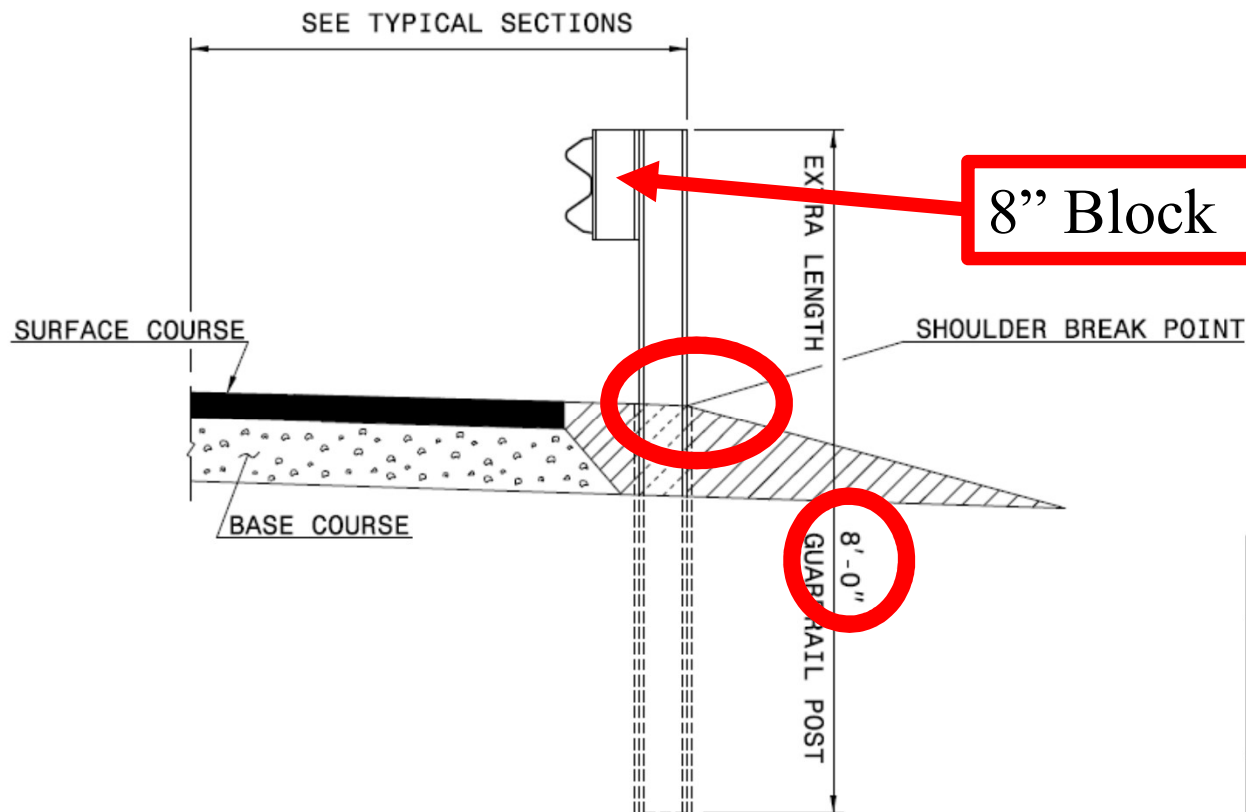
**NCDOT**



**Session 5**

**5-39**

# Soil Backing – NCDOT



CONTRACT STANDARDS AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT	
Office 919-707-6950	FAX 919-250-4119
<b>8' GUARDRAIL POST</b>	
ORIGINAL BY: <u>L. Robinson</u>	DATE: <u>1995</u>
MODIFIED BY: <u>L. Robinson</u>	DATE: <u>Feb. 1998</u>
CHECKED BY: _____	DATE: _____
FILE SPEC.: <u>s17'postguardrail.dgn</u>	



NCDOT



Session 5



5-40



# 31" with Posts on a 2:1 Slope

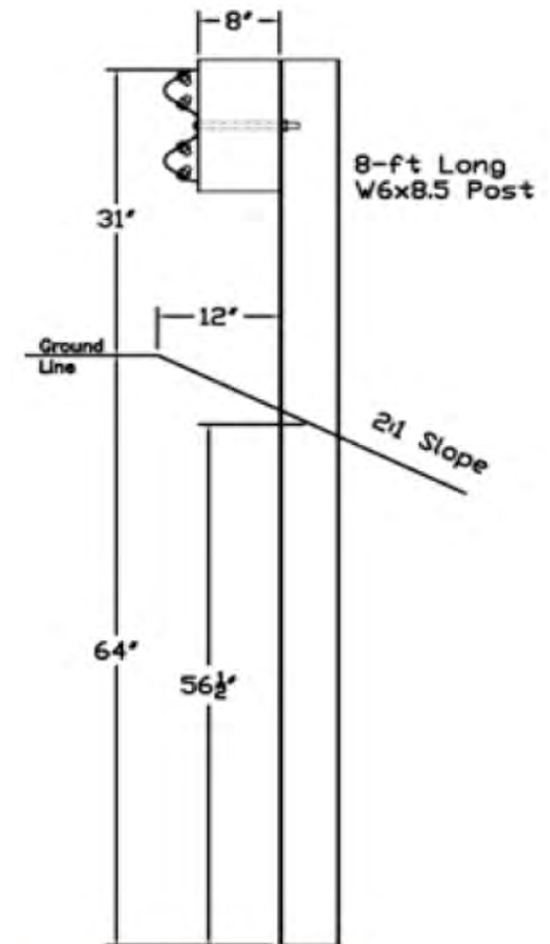
31" with face of rail at slope break point of 2:1 slope

## Posts

- 8' long W6x9 posts tested
- Not recommended with Wood posts at this time
- 6'-3" post spacing

## Blocks

- 8" block tested
- Not recommended without blocks at this time



# 31" with Posts on a 2:1 Slope

MASH Testing of  
MGS adjacent to a  
2:1 Slope  
8" blackout  
8' long posts at  
6'-3" spacing

Working Width – 55.2"  
Eligibility Letter B-261



**NCDOT**



Session 5

5-42



# Roadside High Tension Cable MASH 2009 on a 2:1 Slope

## Safence

Located 8"  
onto the 2:1  
Slope

FHWA Letter  
B- 276

Working  
Width  
7.2 ft.



**NCDOT**



**Session 5**



**5-43**



# Principle 5: Flare Rate



**NCDOT**



**Session 5**



**5-44**



# Flare Rate

*Flared barriers* are those that are not parallel to the edge of the traveled way. They are used to:

- Locate end treatments farther from the roadway.
- Lessen driver reaction to a roadside obstacle.
- Reduce total length of rail needed.
- Reduce nuisance hits.
- When tying to a bridge rail from a farther offset (in advance of transition)

# Flare Rate

Trade offs and restrictions of flared barriers:

- Flare increases the angle at which the barrier can be hit.
- Flare may increase the angle of redirection after an impact.
- Flared barriers can only be placed on 10:1 or flatter slopes.
- Maximum flare rate varies with design speed  
NCDOT flare rate typically 50:1



# Tangent End Treatments on Flared Standard Run - Repeat

The offset of the end treatment is measured from a line parallel to the ROADWAY:

If the standard flare is 25:1 or flatter, the end treatment may be placed on the standard flare line extended

If the standard flare is sharper than 25:1, a kink in the run must be provided so the end treatment is no sharper than 25:1

NCDOT guidance is to provide 25' of parallel guardrail in advance of any end treatment requiring a kink.

# Suggested Flare Rates

Table 5-9. Suggested Flare Rates for Barrier Design

Design Speed		Flare Rate for Barrier Inside Shy Line	Flare Rate for Barrier at or Beyond Shy Line	
km/h	[mph]		Rigid Barrier	Semi -Rigid Barrier
110	[70]	30:1	20:1	15:1
100	[60]	26:1	18:1	14:1
90	[55]	24:1	16:1	12:1
80	[50]	21:1	14:1	11:1
70	[45]	18:1	12:1	10:1
60	[40]	16:1	10:1	8:1
50	[30]	13:1	8:1	7:1

**Notes:**

A = Suggested maximum flare rate for rigid barrier system.

B = Suggested maximum flare rate for semi-rigid barrier system.

The MGS has been tested in accordance with NCHRP Report 350 TL-3 at 5:1 flare.

Flatter flare rates for the MGS installations also are acceptable. The MGS should be installed using the flare rates shown or flatter for semi-rigid barriers beyond the shy line when installed in rock formations.



**NCDOT**



**Session 5**



**5-48**



# Example of Benefit of Flare



**NCDOT**



**Session 5**

**5-49**



# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



**NCDOT**



**Session 5**



**5-50**



# Review Learning Outcomes

Understand the design principles affecting an optimal barrier installation.

North Carolina Department of Transportation

# Highway Safety Barrier Design Training

## Session 6: Length of Need and Special Considerations



# Session 6 Learning Outcomes

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Define the Length of Need and apply the design principles for an optimal installation
- Modify guardrail for special situations

# Order of Preference

1. Remove hazard
2. Redesign hazard (make traversable)
3. Relocate hazard (move away from traffic)
4. Reduce Impact Severity ( use breakaway design)
5. SHIELD hazard
6. Delineate hazard so motorist can avoid

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition – Pg. 1-4



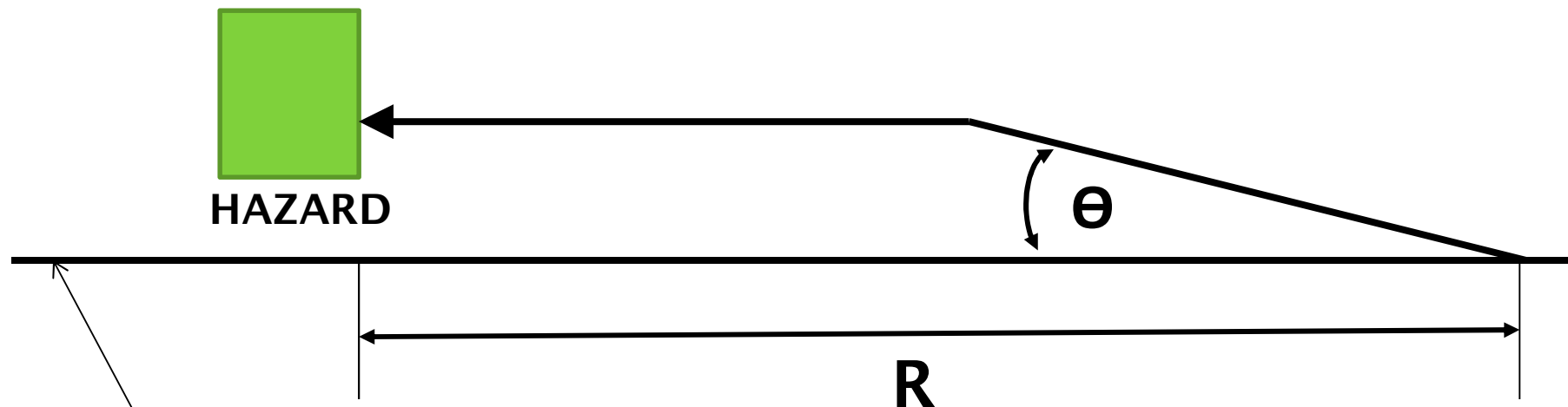
# Length of Need (LON) Definition

## AASHTO

The length of effective barrier needed **IN ADVANCE OF** the hazard to intercept and redirect an encroaching vehicle.

# Length of Need (LON) Theory

## AASHTO



Edge of Traveled Way

$\theta$  = Angle of Departure (Unknown)

$R$  = Runout Length



NCDOT



Session 6



6-5



# Runout Lengths - NCDOT

Will be replaced  
with AASHTO  
RDG values

LR = RUNOUT LENGTH  
N = NORMAL SHOULDER WIDTH (WIDTH OF SHOULDER FROM EDGE OF TRAVEL  
LANE TO FACE OF GUARDRAIL)

**DETAIL 3-2A**



**NCDOT**



Session 6

6-6

# Runout Lengths - AASHTO

Table 5-10(b). Suggested Runout Lengths for Barrier Design (U.S. Customary Units)

Design Speed (mph)	Runout Length ( $L_R$ ) Given Traffic Volume (ADT) (ft)			
	Over 10,000	5,000 to 10,000	1,000 to 5,000	Under 1,000
80	470	430	380	330
70	360	330	290	250
60	300	250	210	200
50	230	190	160	150
40	160	130	110	100
30	110	90	80	70

Ref: AASHTO ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE, 4<sup>th</sup> EDITION – TABLE 5.10, Pg. 5-50



# Length of Need - AASHTO

- Calculating the length of need (X) for straight or nearly straight sections of roadway:

- For flared guardrail installations:

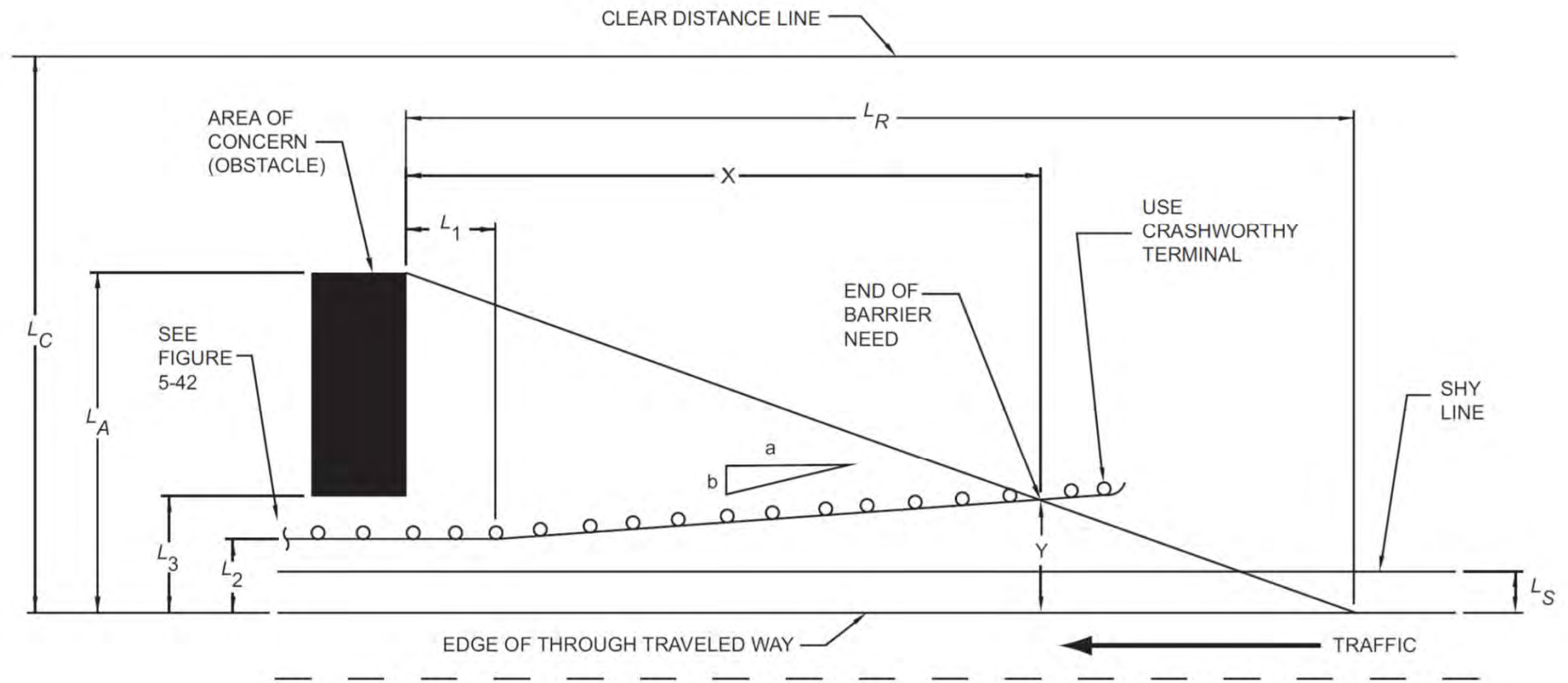
$$X = \frac{L_A + (b/a) (L_1) - L_2}{(b/a) + (L_A/L_R)}$$

- For parallel guardrail installations:

$$X = \frac{L_A - L_2}{L_A/L_R}$$

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4th Edition, Equation 5-1 and 5-2, Pg 5-51

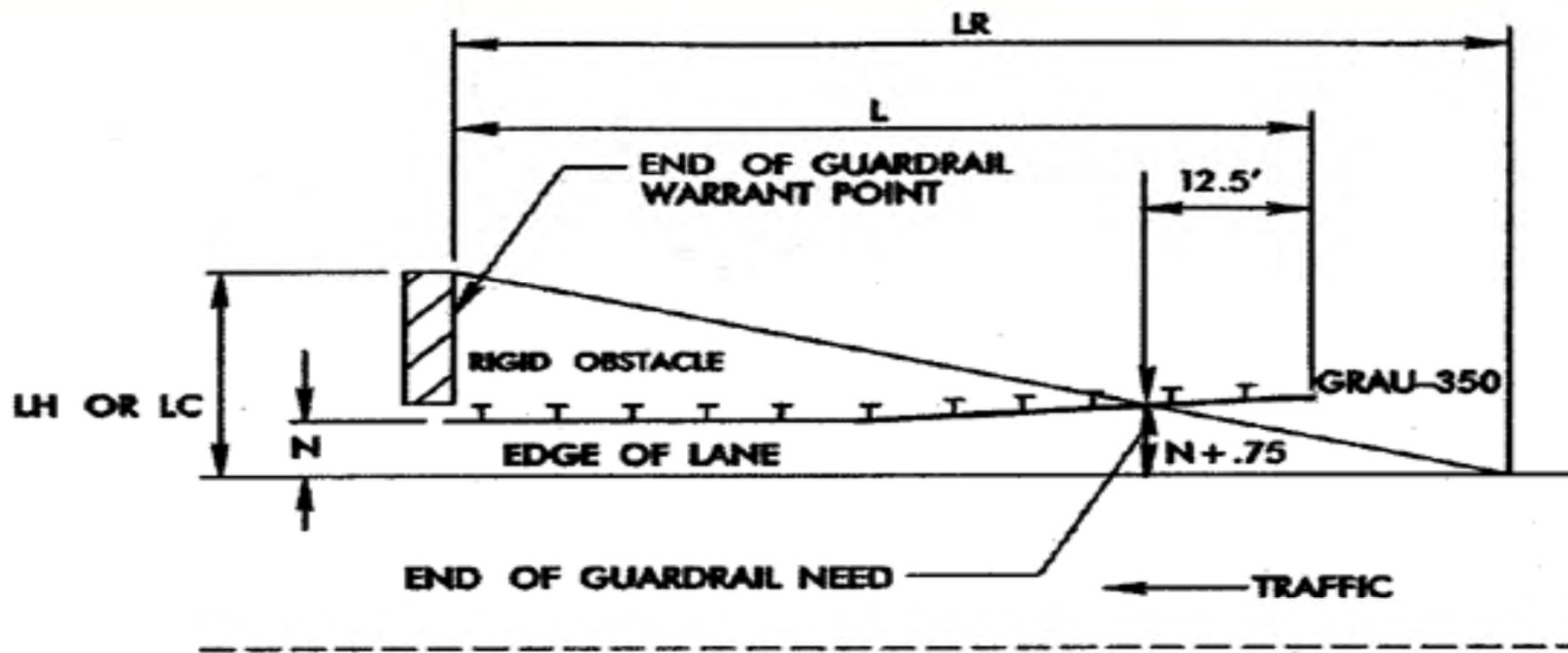
# LON Design Procedure for Approach Barrier Layout



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Figure 5.39, Pg. 5-49



# Length of Need – NCDOT



ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

PART 1

DETAIL 3-2A



NCDOT



Session 6



6-10

# Length of Need – NCDOT

- Calculating the length of need (L) for straight or nearly straight sections of roadway (parallel installation):

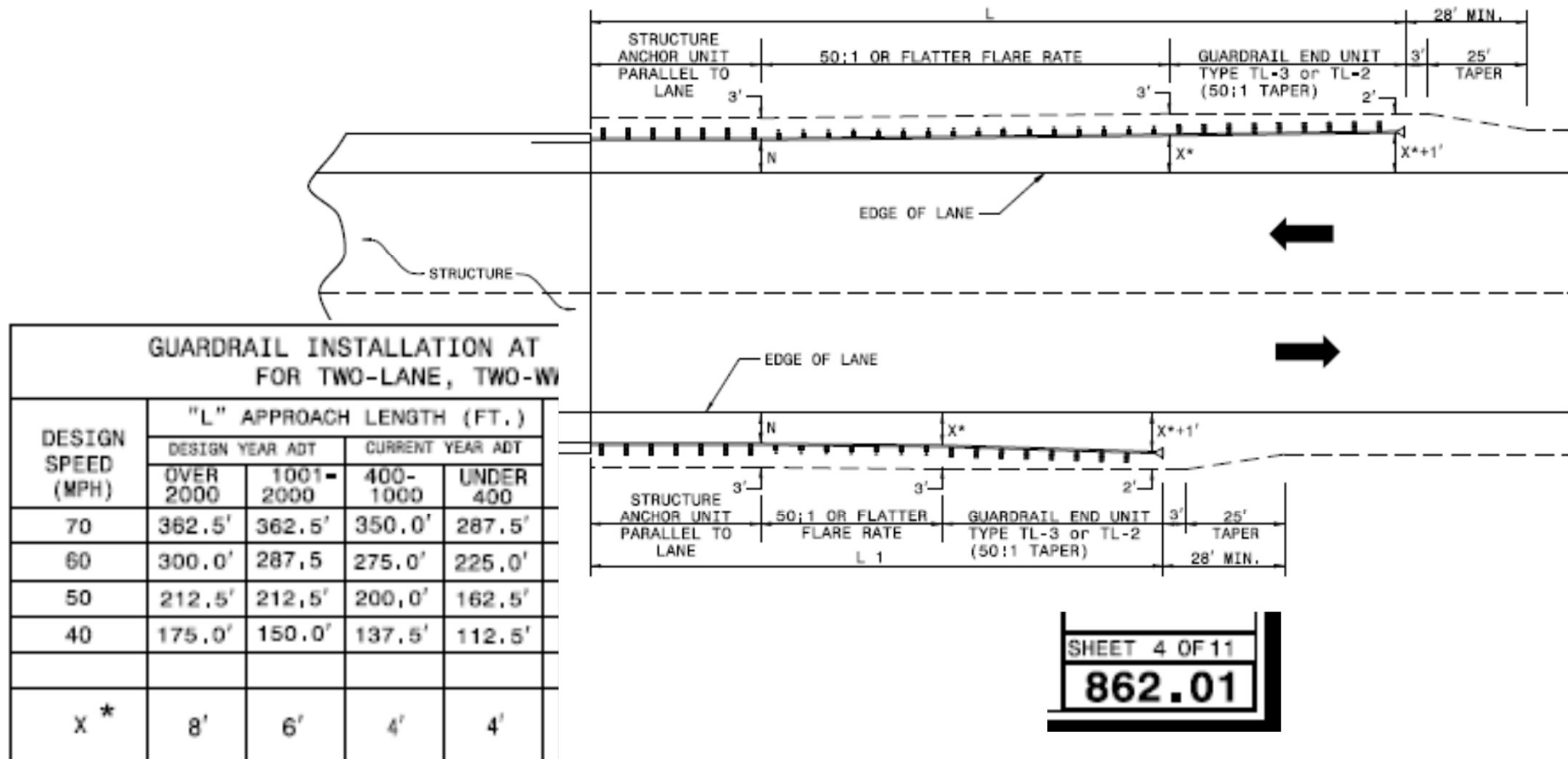
$$L = \frac{LH - (N + 0.75)}{LH/LR} + 12.50 + 15'$$

The formulas and details are derived from Chapter 5 in the Roadside Design Guide.



# Length of Need for Bridge Approach

## NCDOT



**NCDOT**

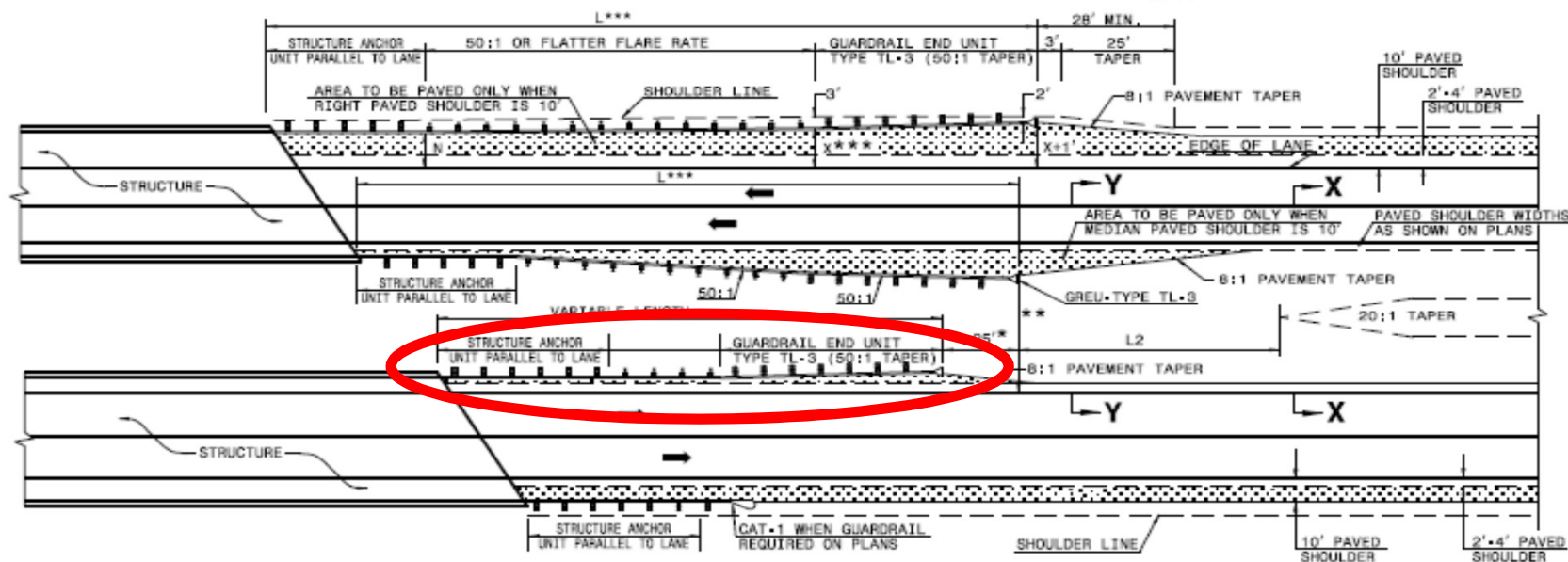


**Session 6**

**6-12**

# Length of Need for Bridge Approach

## NCDOT – Dual Bridges



DIMENSIONS FOR LENGTH OF GUARDRAIL APPROACHING DUAL LANE BRIDGES						
MEDIAN WIDTH	-L-***					-L2- DIM,
	70 MPH	60 MPH	50 MPH			
30'	300.0'	250.0'	150.0'			80.0'
36'	300.0'	250.0'	150.0'			60.0'
40' & ABOVE	300.0'	250.0'	150.0'			40.0'

SHEET 3 OF 11  
**862.01**

THE DESIGN LAYOUT FOR LENGTHS SHOWN ON THIS STANDARD ARE MINIMUM DESIGN LENGTHS.



**NCDOT**

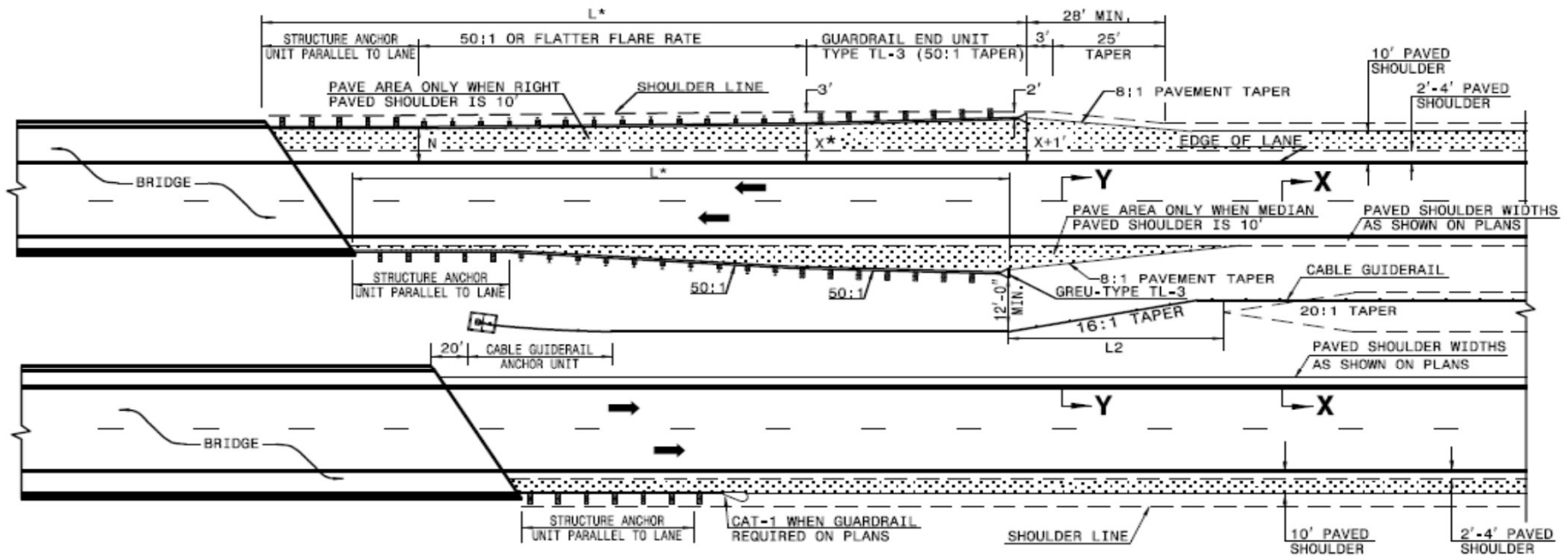


Session 6

6-13



# Length of Need for Bridge Approach NCDOT – with Cable Barrier



DIMENSIONS FOR LENGTH OF GUARDRAIL APPROACHING DUAL LANE BRIDGES						
MEDIAN WIDTH	-L-*					
	70 MPH	60 MPH	50 MPH			-L2- DIM.
46' & ABOVE	300.0'	250.0'	150.0'			40.0'

SHEET 2 OF 12  
**865.01**

THE DESIGN LAYOUT FOR LENGTHS SHOWN ON THIS STANDARD ARE MINIMUM DESIGN LENGTHS.



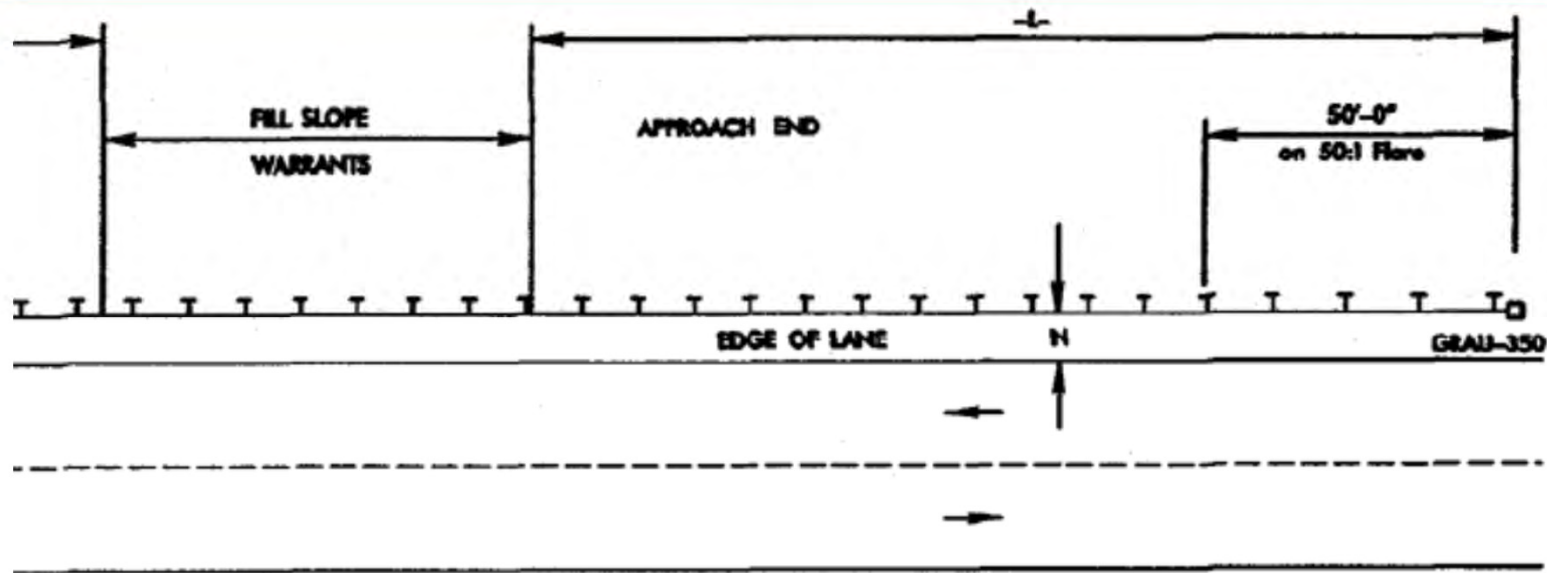
**NCDOT**



Session 6

6-14

# Length of Need for Fill Slope NCDOT



"L" OR LENGTH OF NEED ON THE APPROACH SIDE OF THE GUARDRAIL FOR A FILL SLOPE WARRANT FOR ANY CLASSIFICATION OF ROADWAY

DESIGN SPEED (MPH)	70	60	50	40
"L" (FT.)	150'	125'	100'	75'

DETAIL 3 - 2C

These are quite short compared to AASHTO



NCDOT

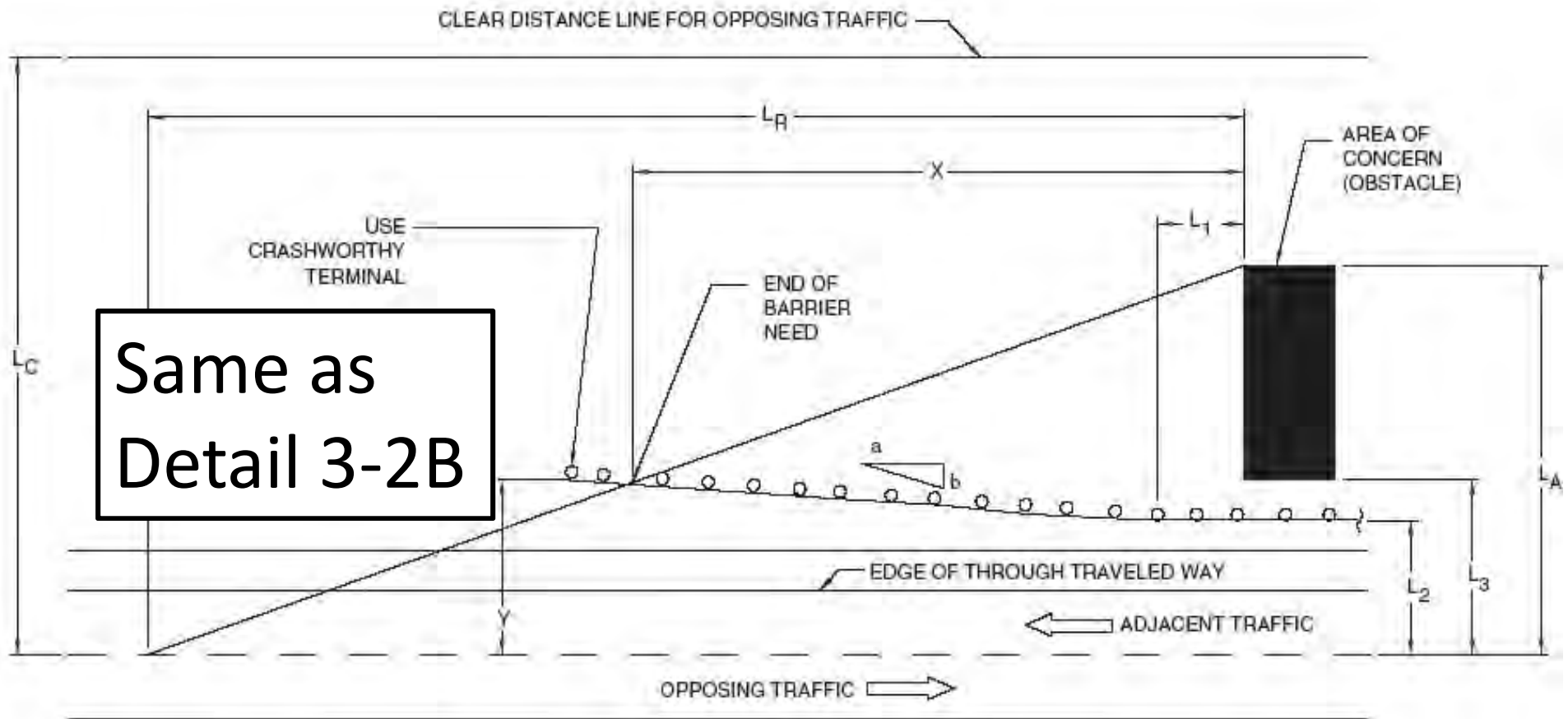


Session 6

6-15



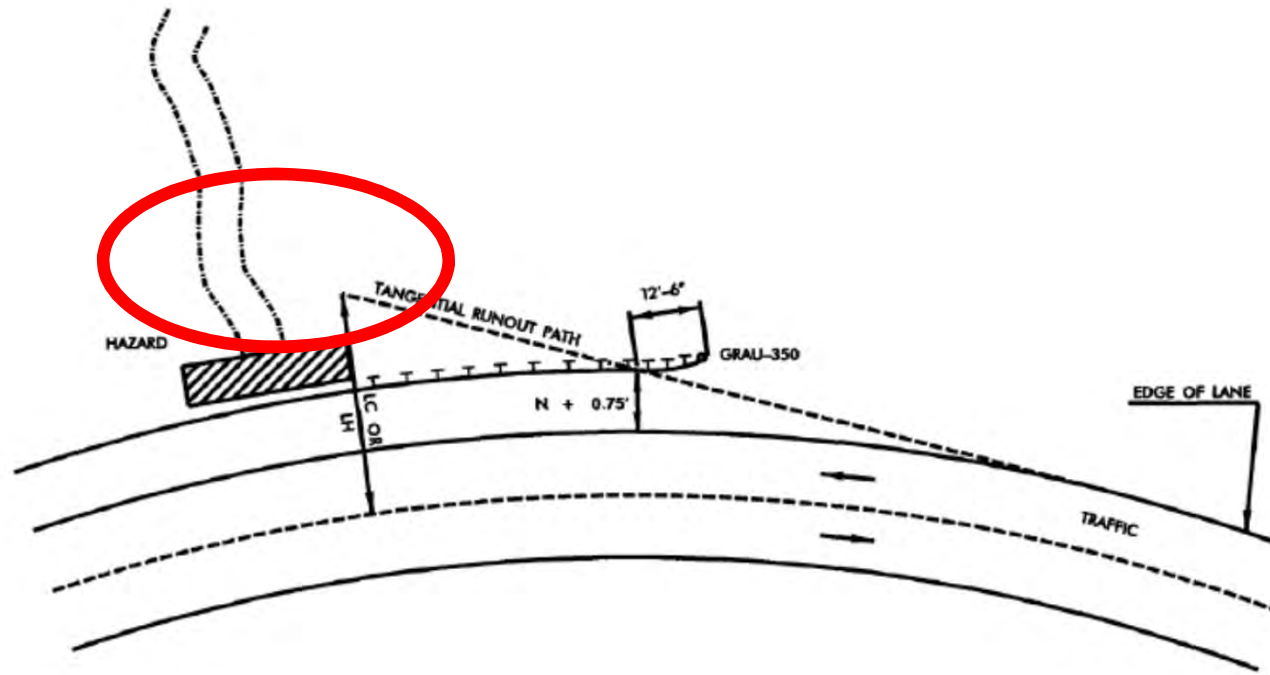
# LON Design for Opposing Traffic



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 4th Edition, Figure 5.42, Pg. 5-54

# Length of Need on the Outside of a Horizontal Curve

REV. 01/02/02



**DETAIL OF GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT ON APPROACH END OF HAZARD LOCATED ON A HORIZONTAL CURVE**

DETAIL 2D

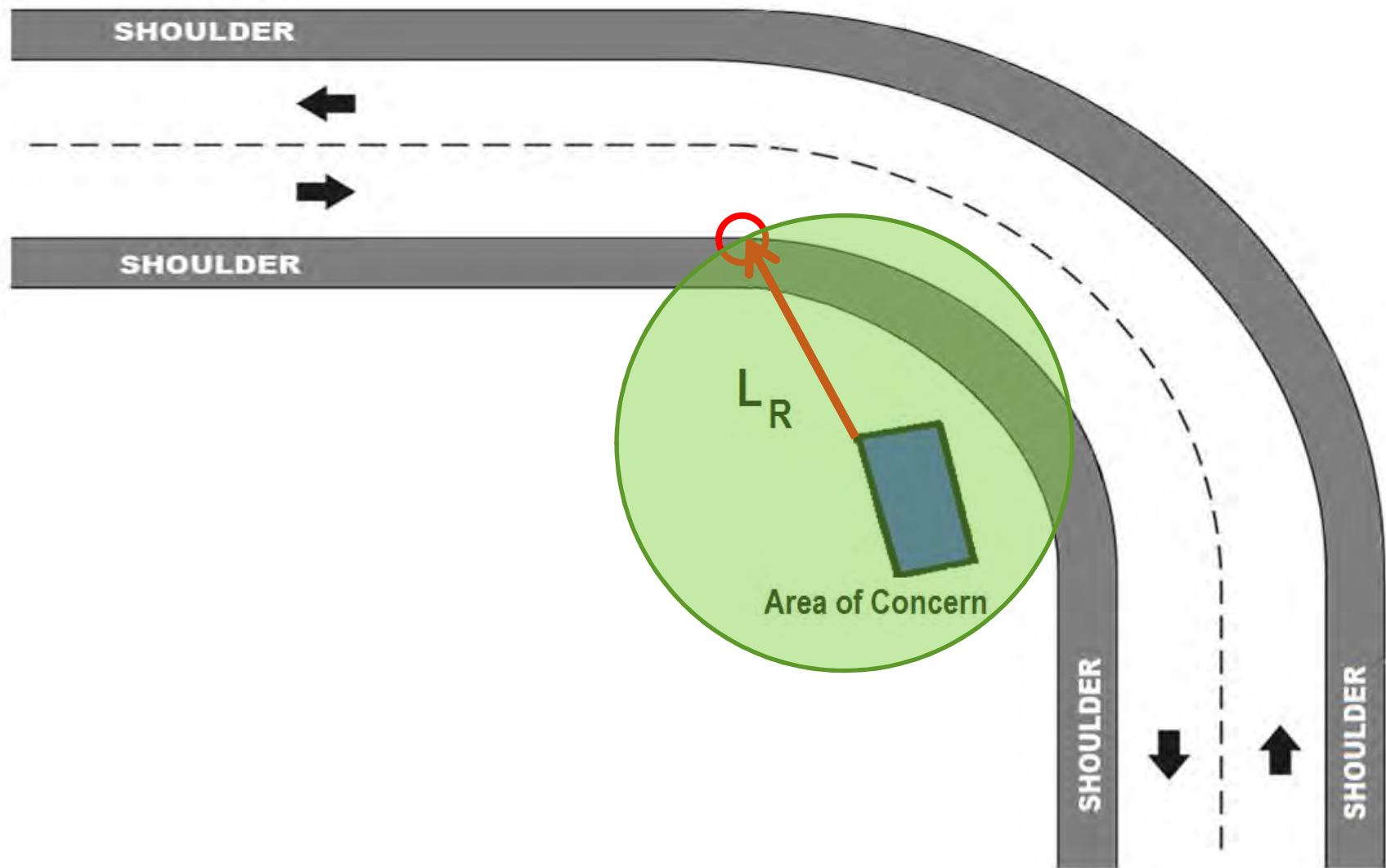
ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

3 - 2D

F



# Length of Need on the Inside of a Horizontal Curve



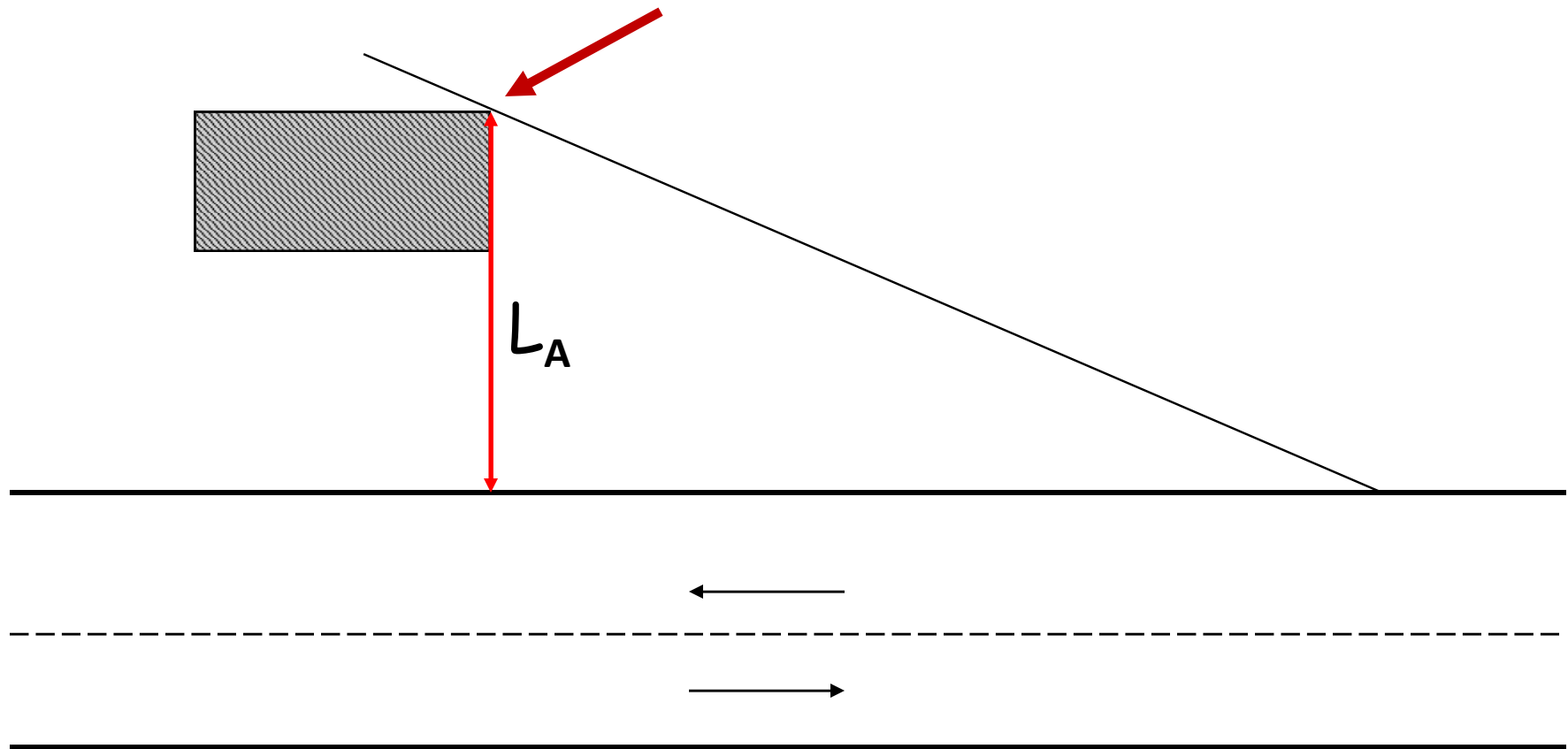
# Energy–Absorbing terminal on a curve



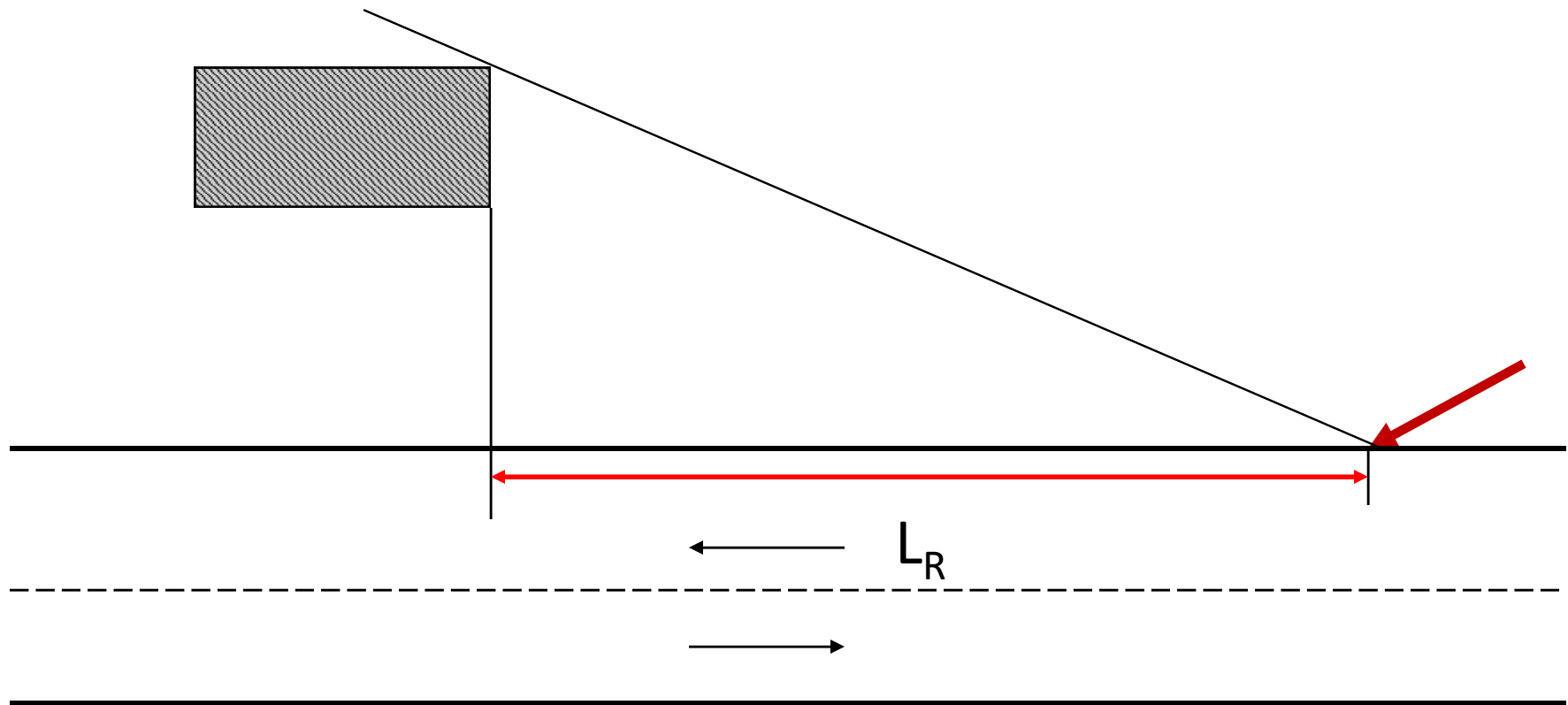
Energy-Absorbing terminals must be installed in a straight line over the length of the terminal proper. This may require the barrier to be extended in advance of the curve.



# Step 1: Identify the Hazard

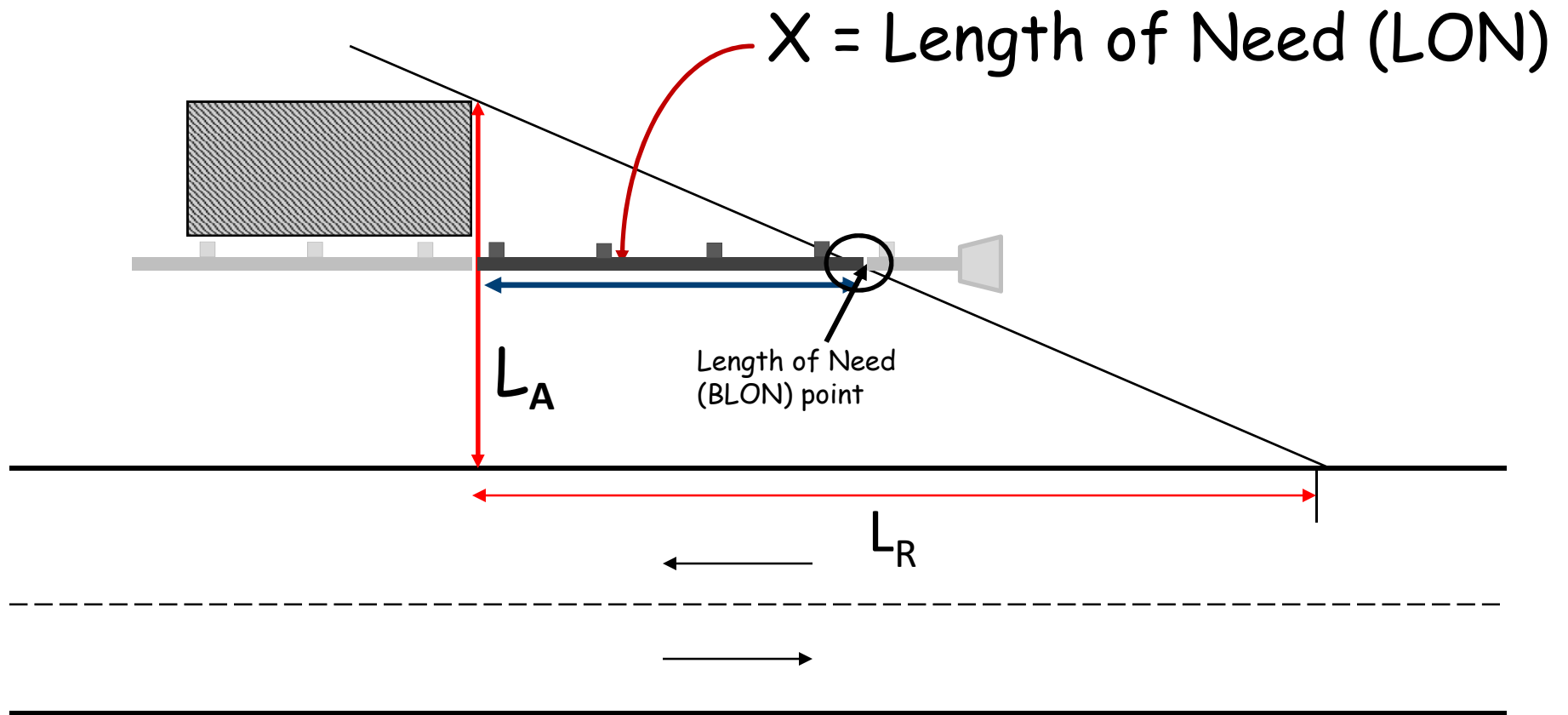


# Step 2: Define the Point of Departure





# Step 3: Intersect the Hypotenuse





# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-23**



# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-24**



# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-25**



# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**

**6-26**



# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**

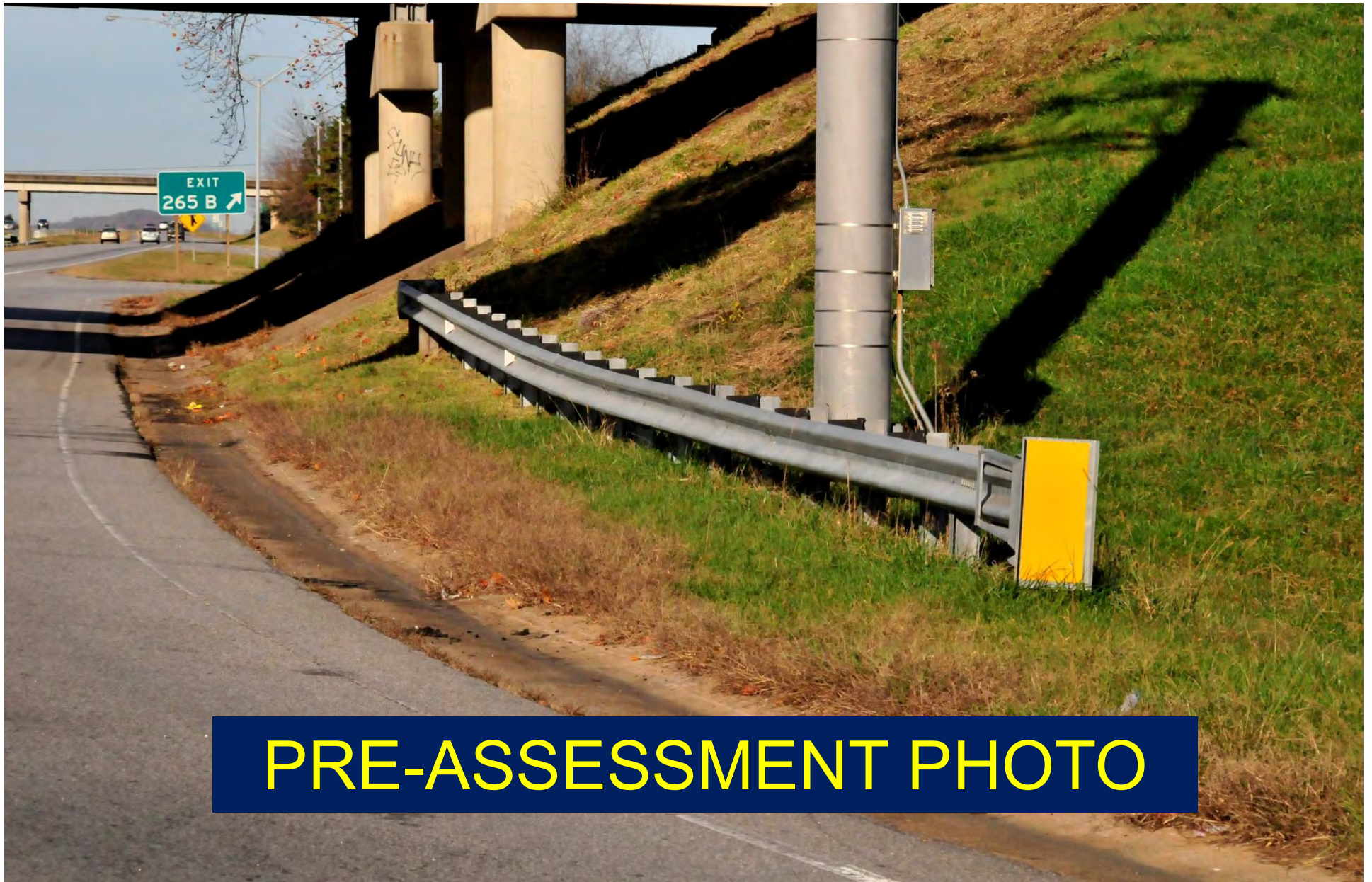


**Session 6**



**6-27**





## PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-28**



# Length of Need – Adequate?



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-29**

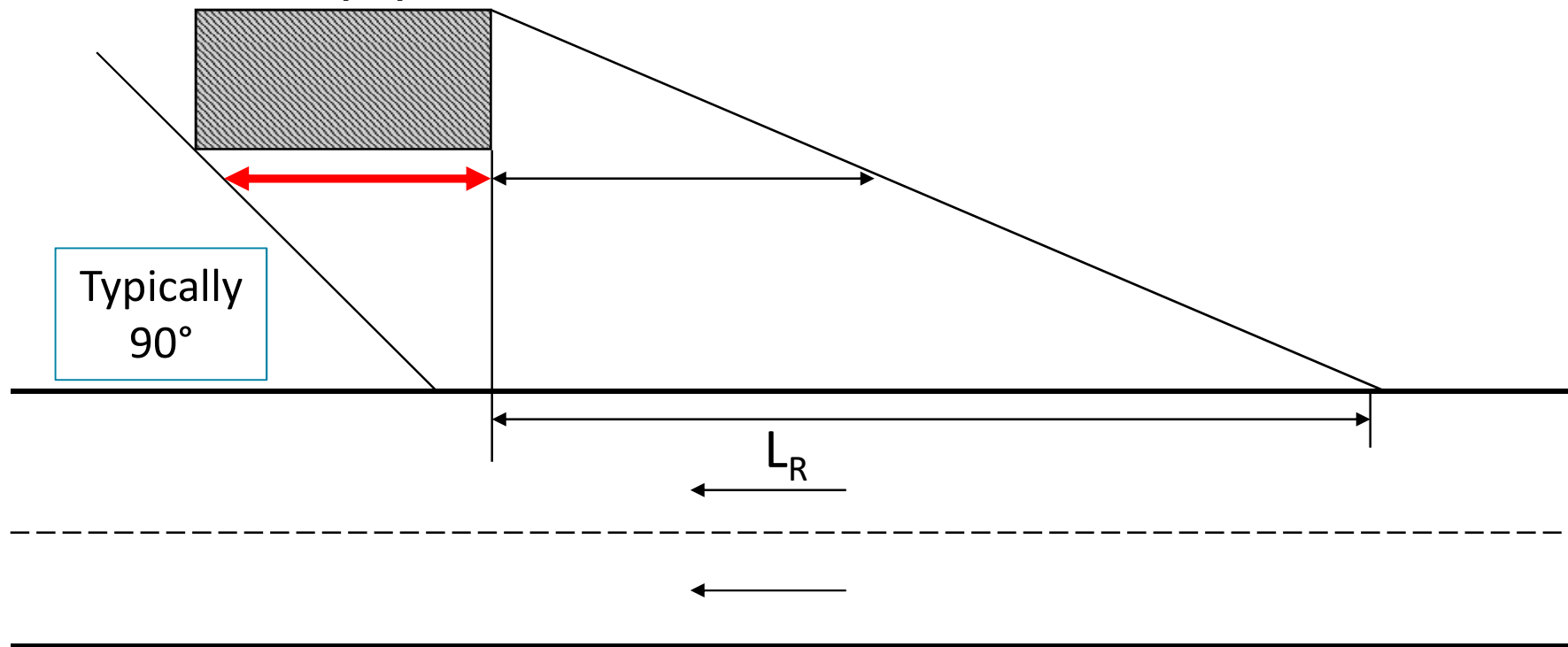


# Quick Field Check of LON

1. Stand on roadway edgeline opposite the upstream edge of the hazard.
2. Pace upstream along edgeline appropriate runout length (based on speed of roadway and traffic volume).
3. Turn and look at far lateral edge of hazard.
4. If planned (or existing) guardrail run intercepts this line of sight, it satisfies basic design length of need.
5. Check for ALL hazards that should be shielded in this area
6. Check for better terminal location by extending barrier a short distance (especially on curves!!!)

# Downstream Termination One Direction Traffic

An anchor (CAT-1) plus some length of rail (?) must be **ADDED** at the end





# Guardrail Placement

Place as far from traffic  
as practical  
(without affecting performance)





**NCDOT**



## Session 6



6-33



# Guardrail Placement in Special Situations

- Turnout Conflict (Side Access)
- Long Span (Omitted Post{s})
- Gaps between runs of barrier
- Extra Blocks
- Leaveouts (Blockouts) for Posts in Structural Pavement
- Guardrail Post in Rock



# Guardrail Placement at Intersections



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**

**6-35**





**NCDOT**



## Session 6



6-36



# Guardrail Placement at Intersections

## NOTES:

SHOP CURVED GUARDRAIL IS DEFINED AS HAVING A RADIUS OF 150' OR LESS.

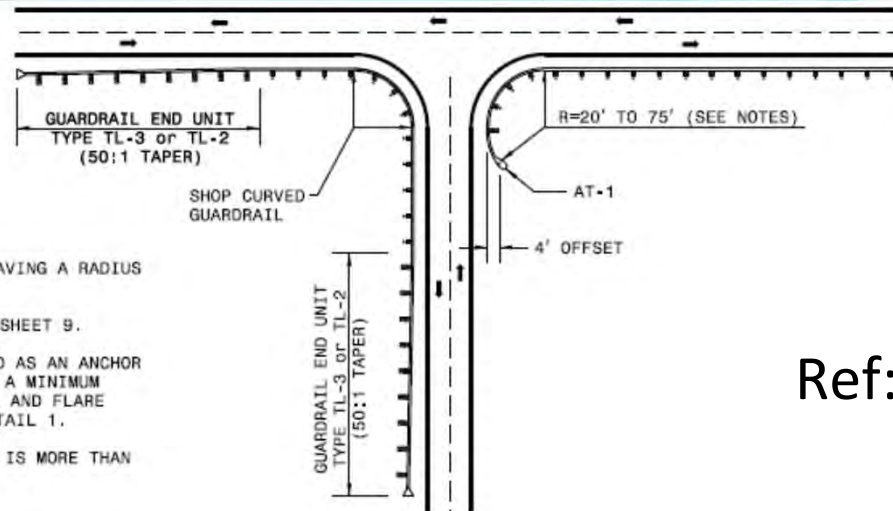
WHEN RADIUS IS LESS THAN 20' REFER TO SHEET 9.

WHENEVER SHOP CURVED GUARDRAIL IS USED AS AN ANCHOR AND THE RADIUS IS FROM 20' TO 75', USE A MINIMUM LENGTH OF 50' OF SHOP CURVED GUARDRAIL AND FLARE WITH AN AT-1 ANCHOR UNIT. REFER TO DETAIL 1.

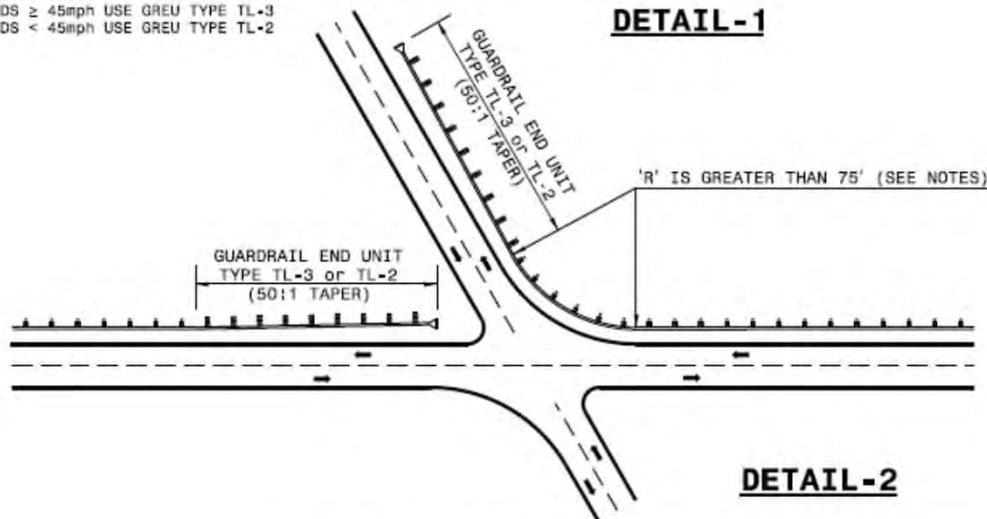
WHENEVER SHOP CURVED GUARDRAIL RADIUS IS MORE THAN 75', REFER TO DETAIL 2.

MAINTAIN CLEAR SIGHT DISTANCE.

FOR POSTED SPEEDS  $\geq$  45mph USE GREU TYPE TL-3  
FOR POSTED SPEEDS  $<$  45mph USE GREU TYPE TL-2



**DETAIL-1**



**DETAIL-2**

Ref: NCDOT Standard  
862.01, Sht 8

## GUARDRAIL TREATMENT AT INTERSECTIONS

Session 6

6-37



# PRE-ASSESSMENT PHOTO



**NCDOT**



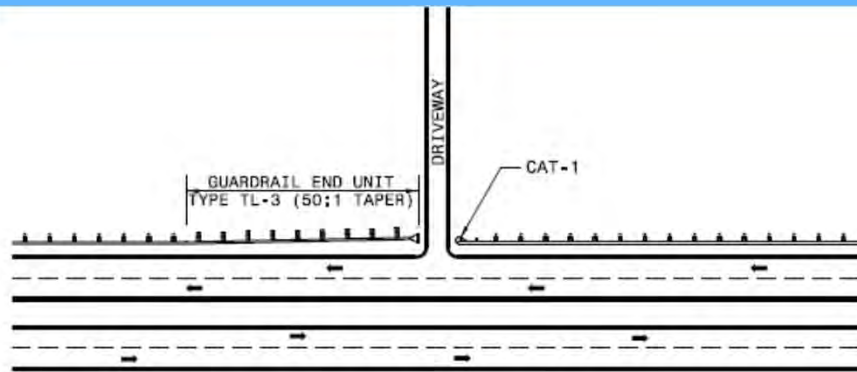
**Session 6**



**6-38**



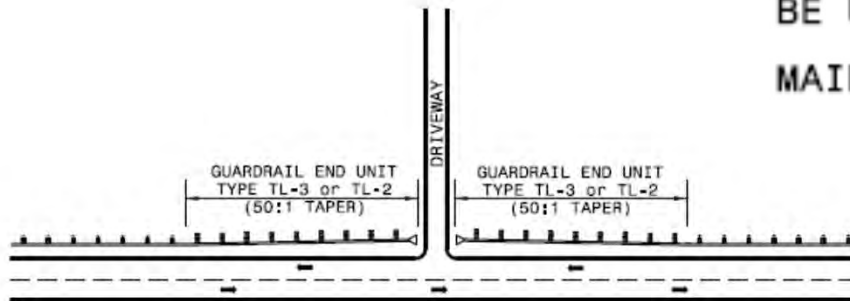
# Guardrail Placement at Driveways



**DETAIL-3**  
DIVIDED HIGHWAY

Ref: NCDOT Standard  
862.01, Sht 9

NOTE: USE DETAIL 3 & 4 WHENEVER  
20' OR LARGER RADIUS CANNOT  
BE UTILIZED.  
MAINTAIN CLEAR SIGHT DISTANCE.



**DETAIL-4**  
UNDIVIDED HIGHWAY

## GUARDRAIL TREATMENT AT DRIVEWAYS



**NCDOT**



Session 6



6-39





**NCDOT**



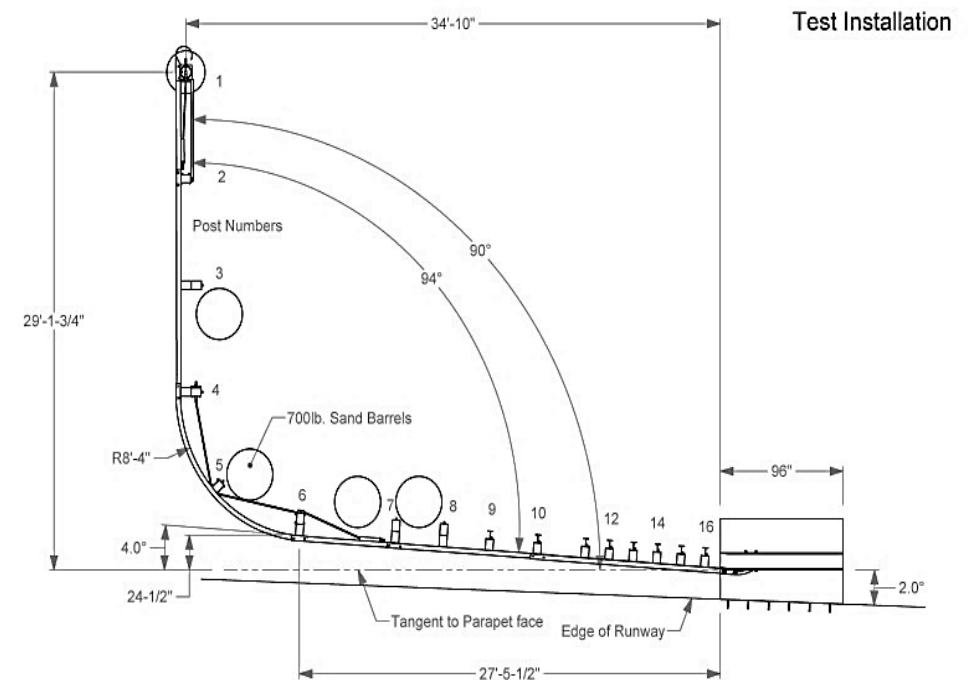
## Session 6



6-40



# TxDOT MASH TL-3 Short Radius



On-going Research by Pool Fund – No Eligibility Letter



# TxDOT MASH TL-3 Short Radius



NCDOT Investigating further developments

MASH TL-3  
Curved Guardrail



NCDOT



Session 6



6-42



# MASH TL-3 Short Radius - NCHRP



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-43**



# Omitting posts – old 29" guardrail



**NCDOT**



**Session 6**



**6-44**



# 31" – Omitting 3 posts



Working Width – 94"  
Eligibility Letter B-189



NCDOT



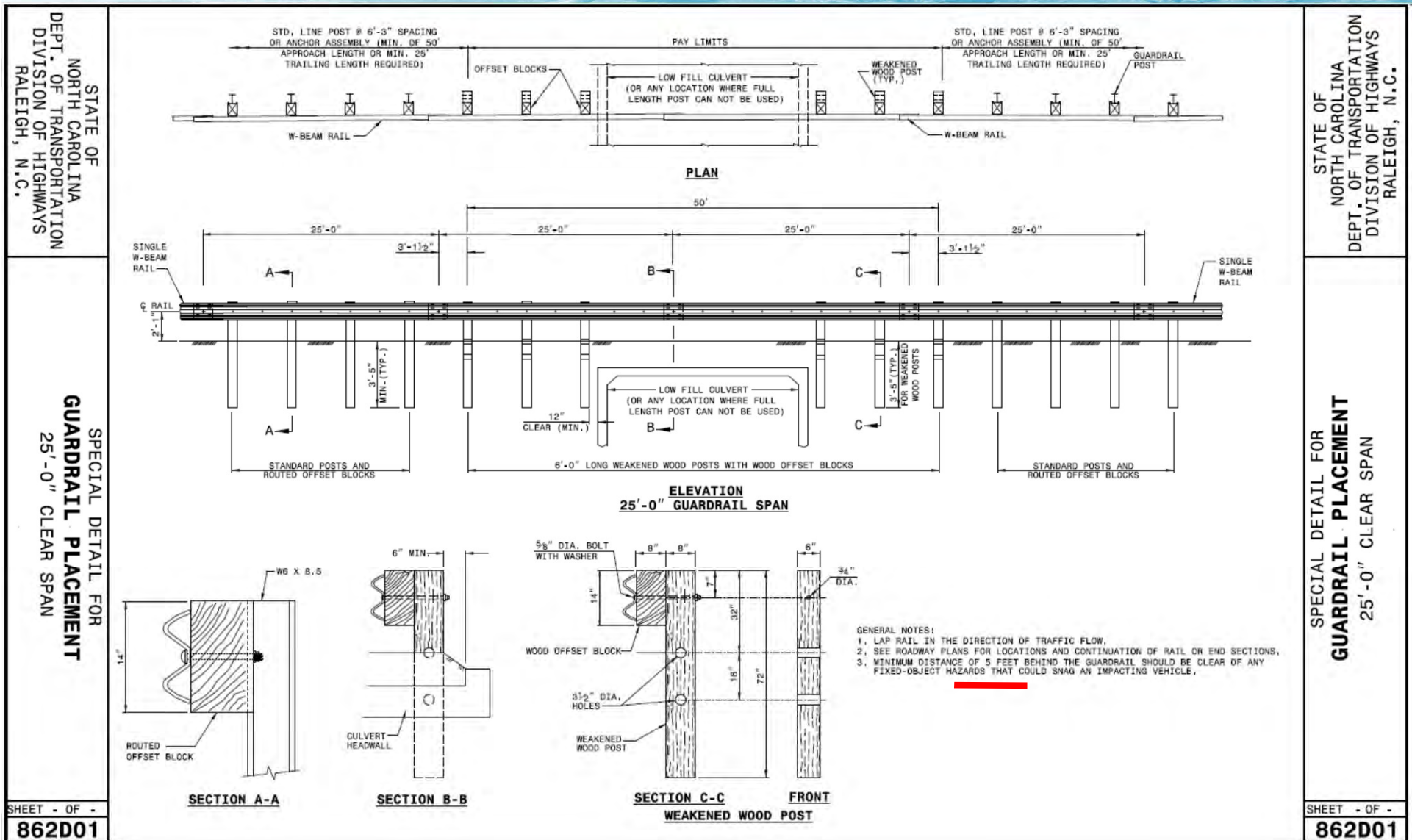
Session 6



6-45



# 31" – Omitting 3 posts



# Openings in Barriers



Check with maintenance, ROW, etc



**NCDOT**



Session 6



6-47



# Openings in Barriers - NCDOT

ROADWAY DESIGN MANUAL

PART 1

DETERMINING GUARDRAIL LENGTHS OF NEED

3-2

NOTE: A space of less than 300' should not be left between guardrail installations. If less than 300' remains between installations, the guardrail should be extended through the area.

**Again, be sure there are no conditions that would preclude closure**



Session 6

6-48

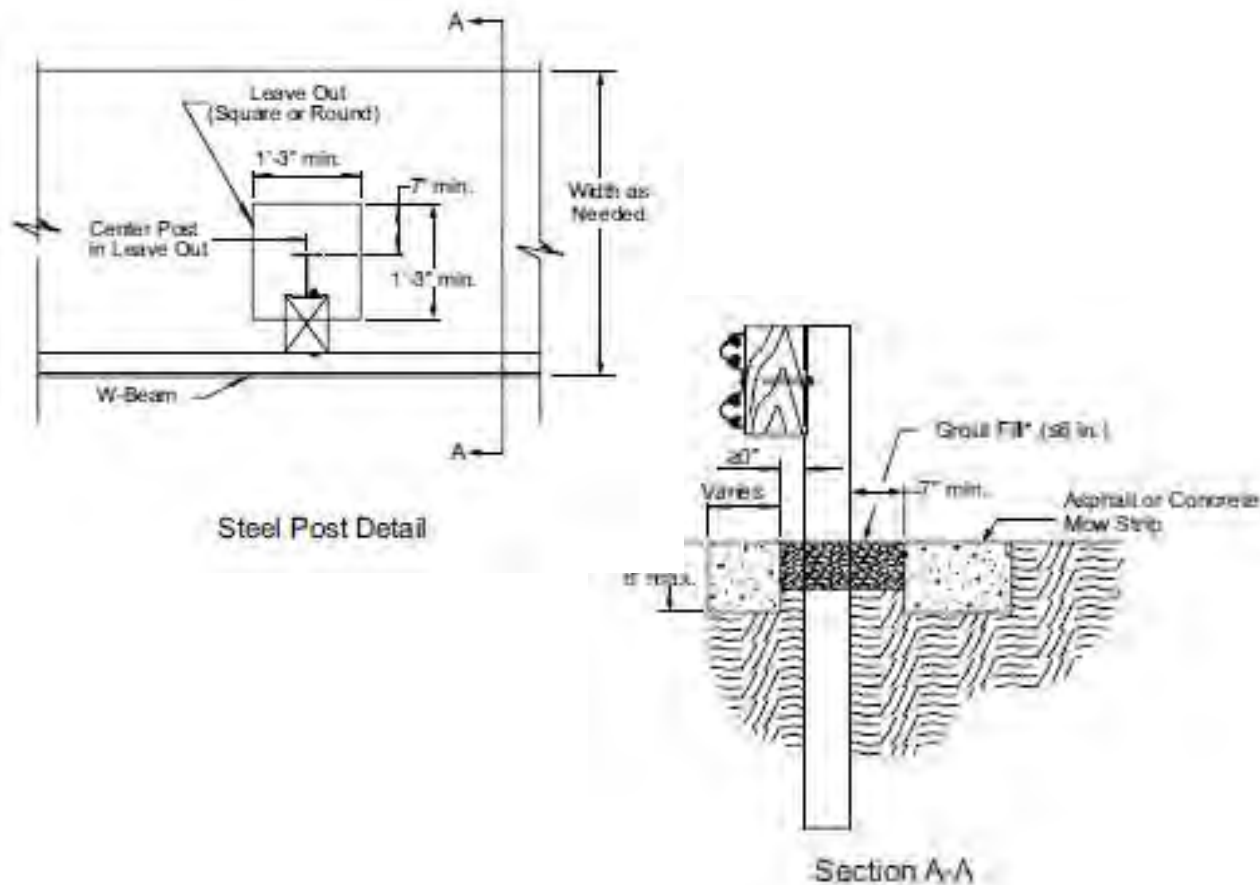
# Extra Blocks – National Guidance

- Two block-outs (up to 16" deep) may be used at any time, for any number of posts.
- Three block-outs may be used at one or two posts in a section of guardrail.

Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Section 5.4.1.6



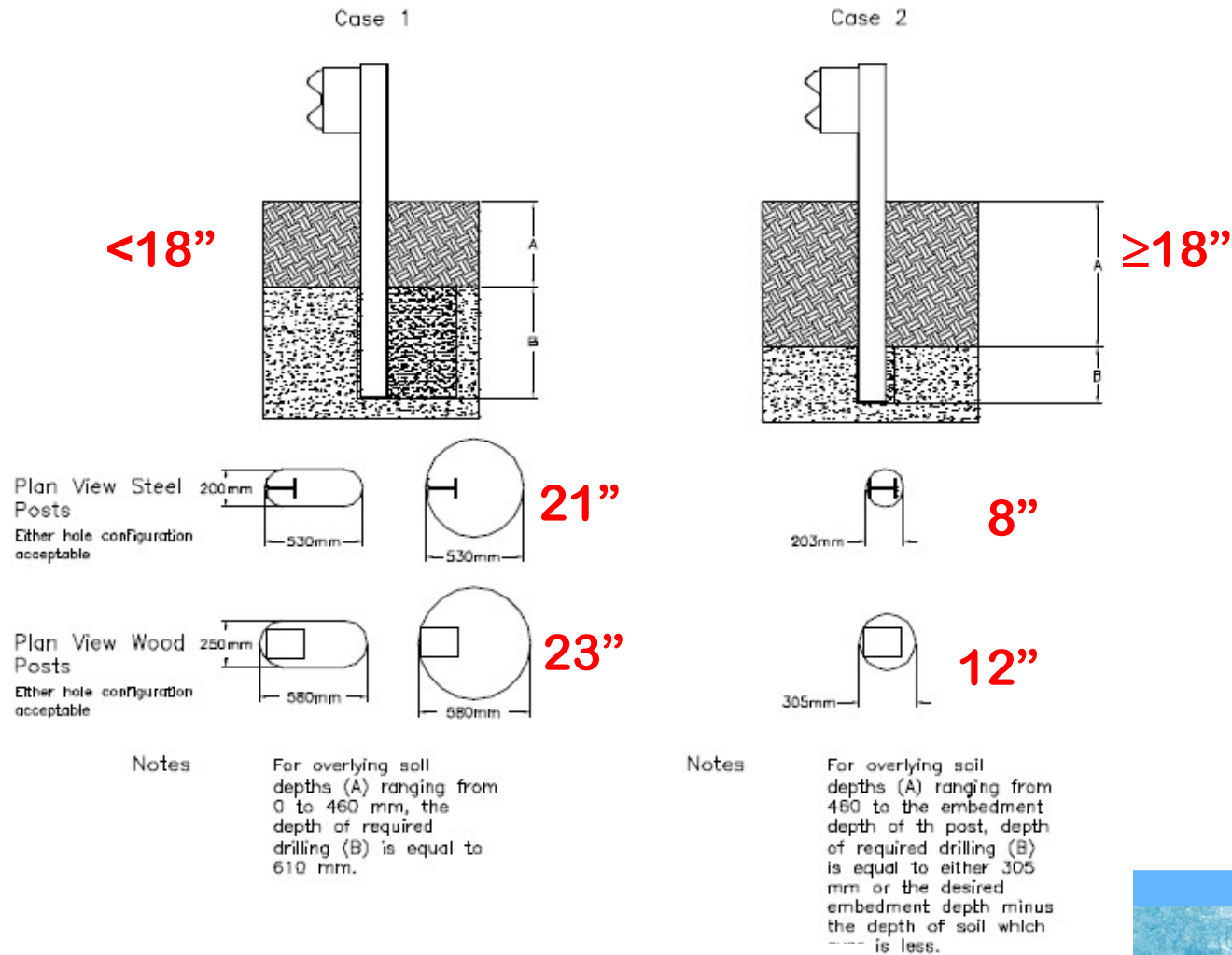
# Leaveouts in Structural Pavement



Ref: AASHTO Roadside Design Guide – 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Figure 5-52

# Guardrail Posts in Rock

## AASHTO



NCDOT

Eligibility Letter B-64B

STATE LINE

6-51



# Guardrail Posts in Rock - NCDOT

## SECTION 862 GUARDRAIL

### 862-3 CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Where rock interferes with the proper installation of the post, excavate a shaft in the rock at least 9 inches wide, parallel to the roadway, by 23 inches long, perpendicular to the roadway and 24 inches deep. Place the post against the roadside edge of the shaft and fill in behind the post with Class VI select material, up to the top elevation of the rock. Fill the remainder of



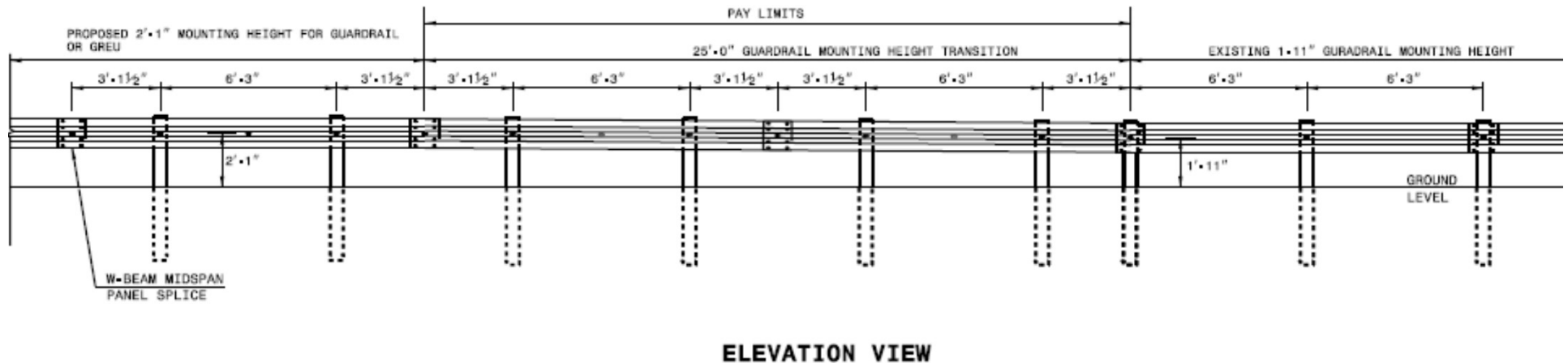
**NCDOT**



**Session 6**

**6-52**

# Height Transition – 31" to/from Old Guardrail



## TRANSITION FROM OR 1'-11" TO 2'-1" W-BEAM GUARDRAIL MOUNTING HEIGHT

862.02 SHEET 4 OF 8	ROADWAY STANDARD DRAWING FOR GUARDRAIL INSTALLATION	1-18 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS RALEIGH, N.C.
------------------------	--	--



**NCDOT**



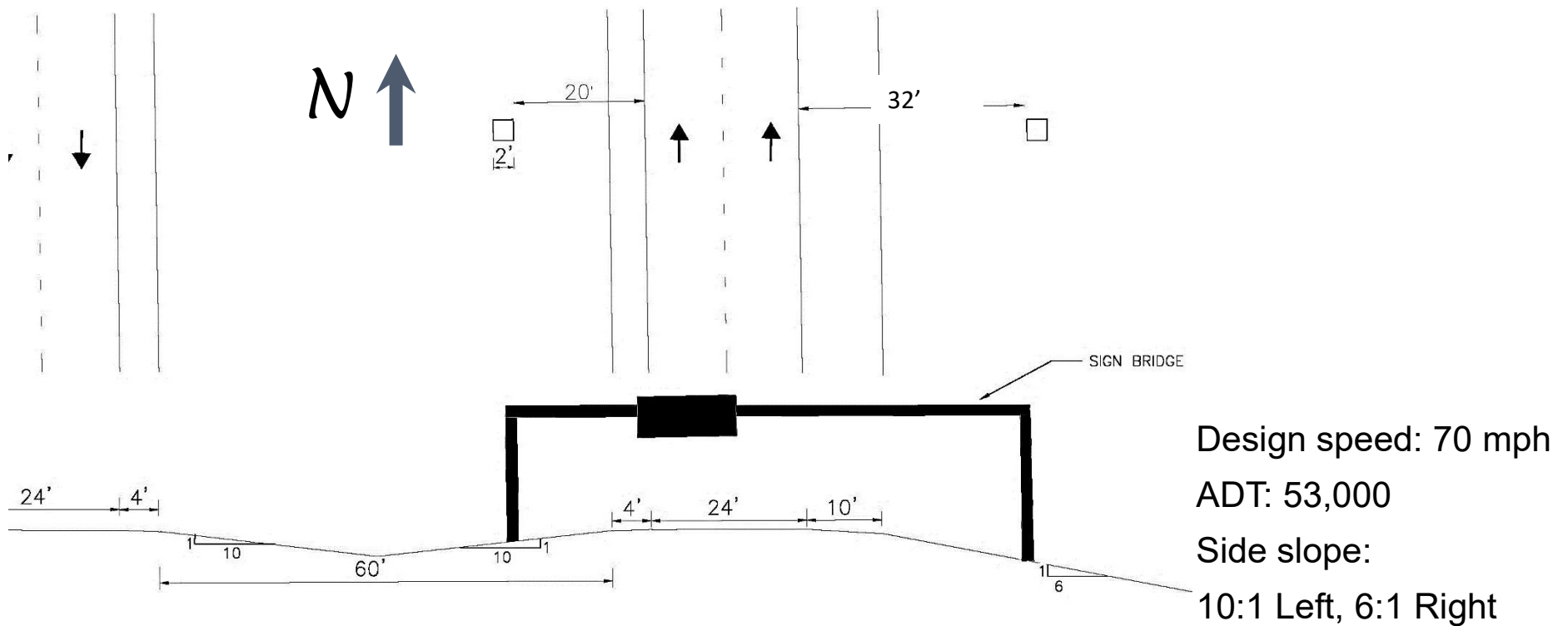
Session 6



6-53

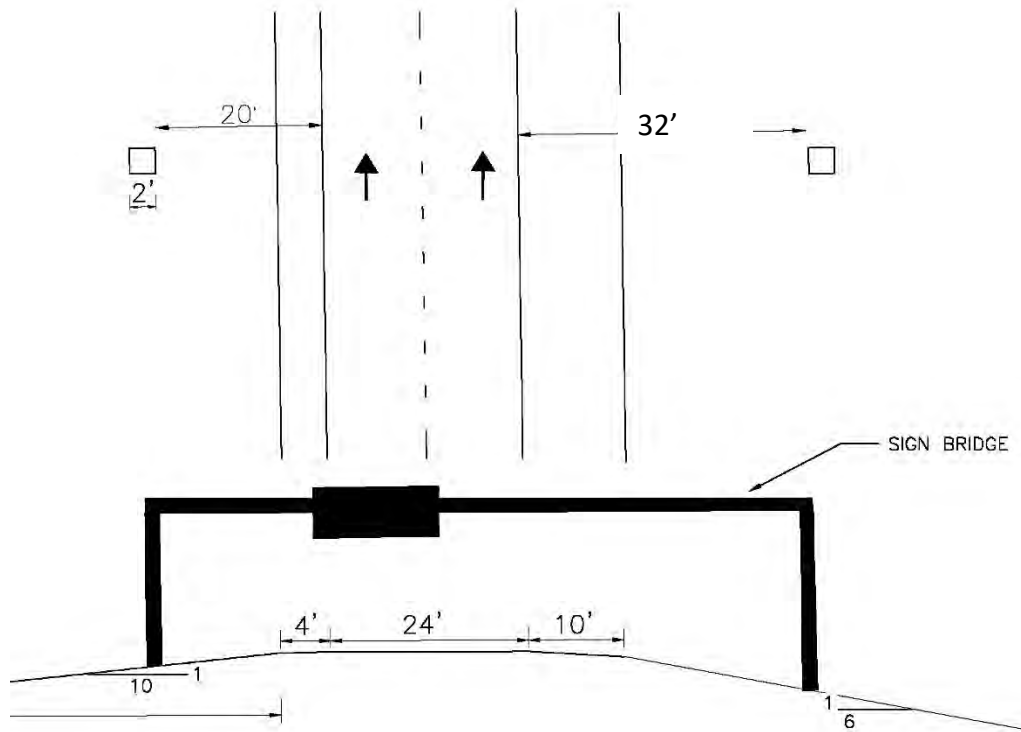


# Example – LON



DETERMINE TREATMENTS FOR NB TRAFFIC

# Example – LON



## Determine Design Clear Zone

The Clear Zone is a look up value from NCDOT Design Manual

Design speed: 70 mph

ADT: 53,000

Side slope: 10:1 or 6:1



# Design Clear Zone Distance – Fill

Design Speed (mph)	Design ADT	Foreslopes		
		1V:6H or flatter	1V:5H to 1V:4H	1V:3H
40 mph	UNDER 750	7-10	7-10	b
	750-1500	10-12	12-14	b
	1500-6000	12-14	14-16	b
	OVER 6000	14-16	16-18	b
45-50 mph	UNDER 750	10-12	12-14	b
	750-1500	14-16	16-20	b
	1500-6000	16-18	20-26	b
	OVER 6000	20-22	24-28	b
55 mph	UNDER 750	12-14	14-18	b
	750-1500	16-18	20-24	b
	1500-6000	20-22	24-30	b
	OVER 6000	22-24	26-32 <sup>a</sup>	b
60 mph	UNDER 750	16-18	20-24	b
	750-1500	20-24	26-32 <sup>a</sup>	b
	1500-6000	26-30	32-40 <sup>a</sup>	b
	OVER 6000	30-32 <sup>a</sup>	36-44 <sup>a</sup>	b
65-70 mph	UNDER 750	18-20	20-26	b
	750-1500	24-26	28-36 <sup>a</sup>	b
	1500-6000	28-32 <sup>a</sup>	34-42 <sup>a</sup>	b
	OVER 6000	30-34 <sup>a</sup>	38-46 <sup>a</sup>	b

Design Speed 70 mph  
AADT = 53,000

**LC = 32 ft.**



**NCDOT**

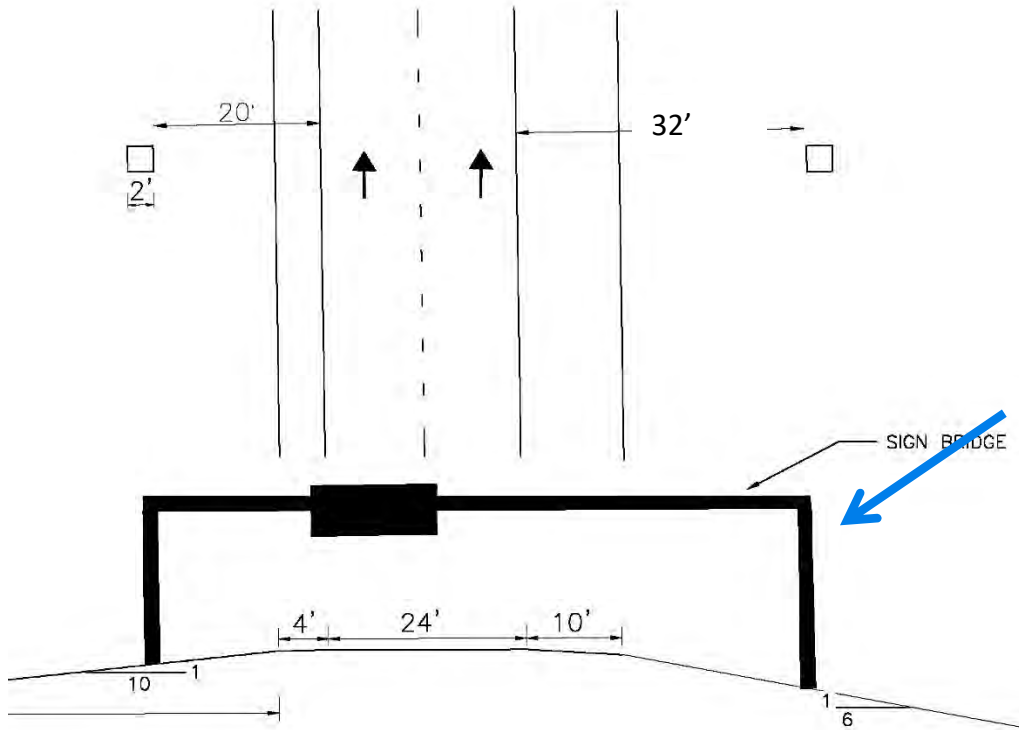


**Session 6**



6-56

# Example – LON



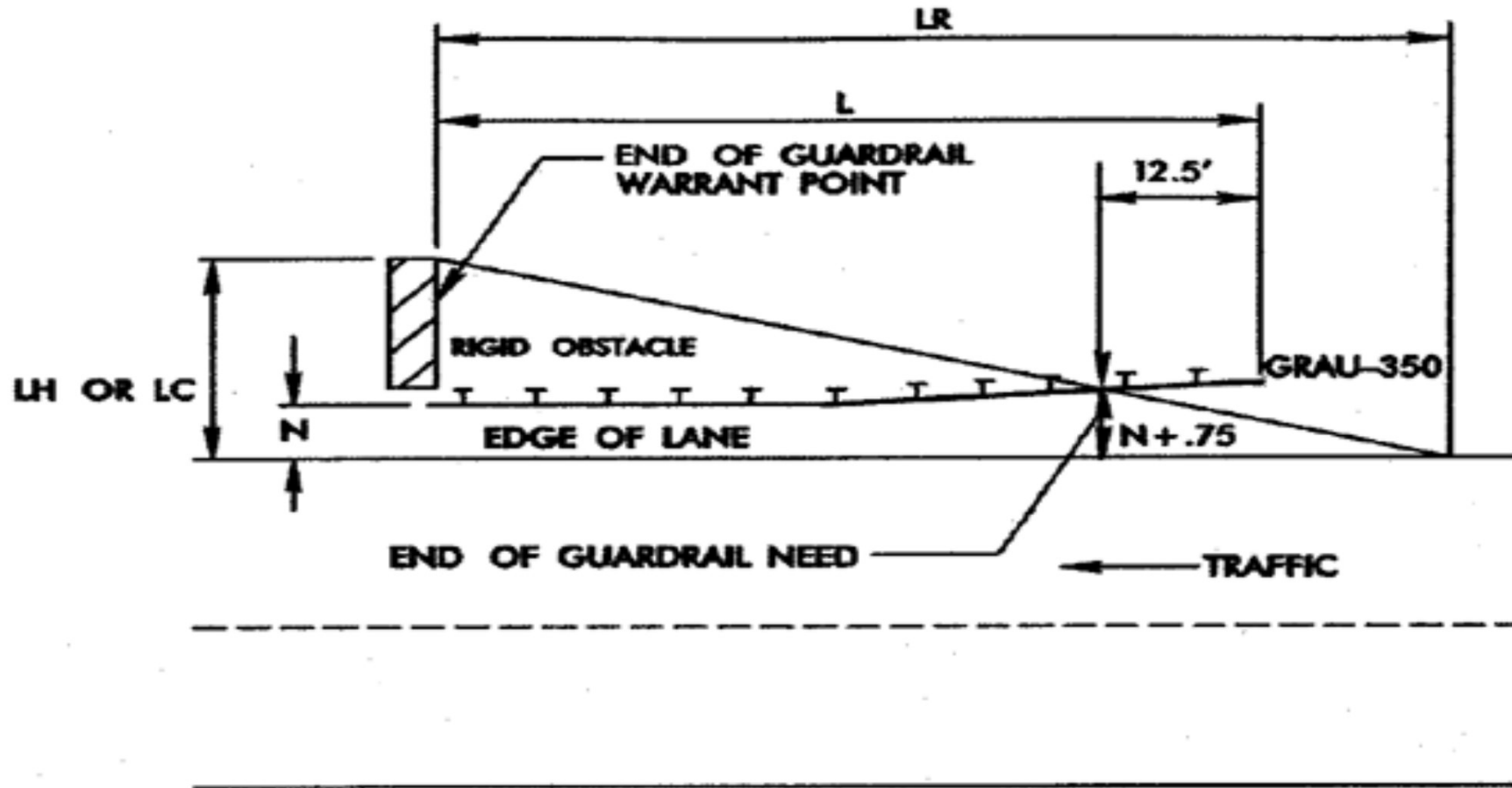
Identify ALL the hazards

NOT SHIELDED

Sign supports – both sides



# Calculating the Length of Need (L)



**NCDOT**



Session 6

6-58

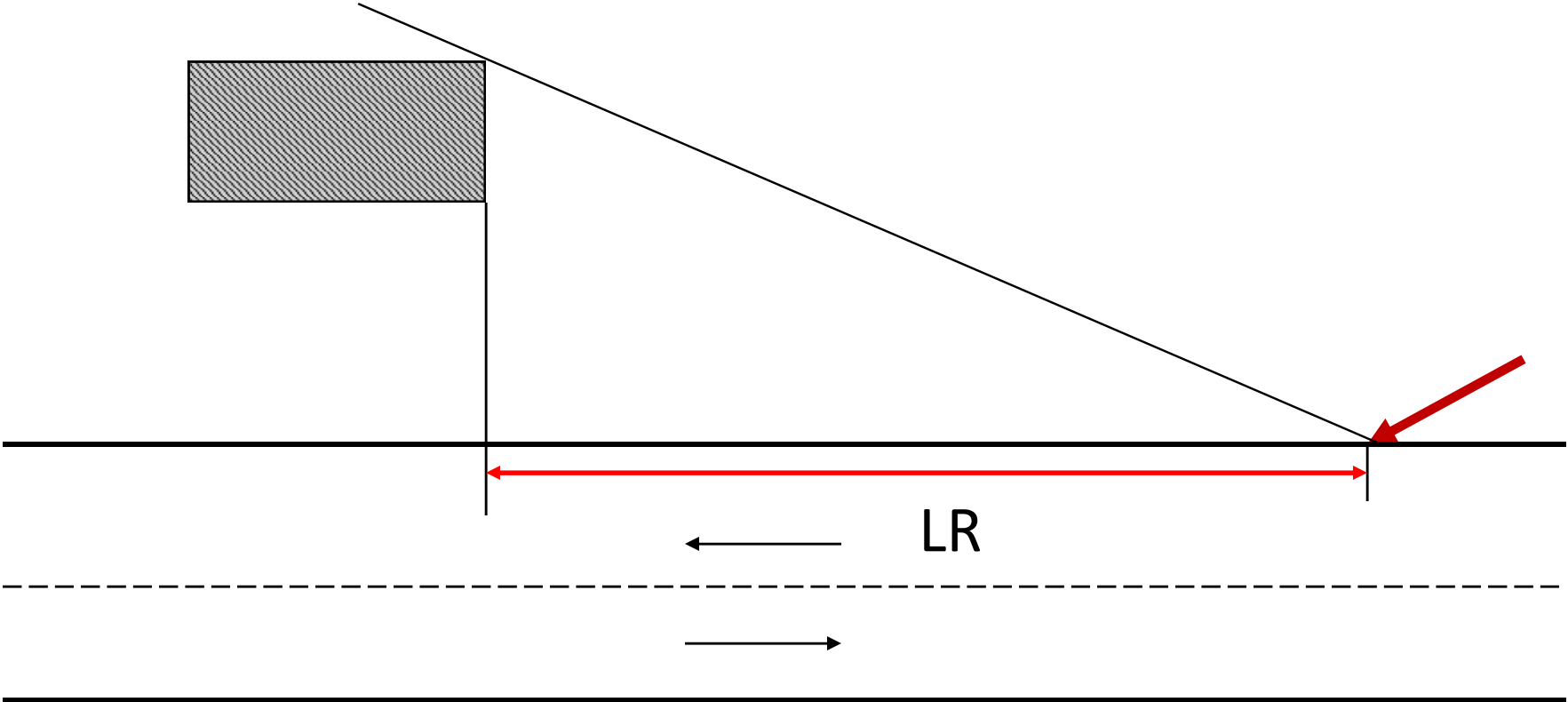
# Length of Need – NCDOT

- Calculating the length of need (L) for straight or nearly straight sections of roadway for parallel installation:

$$L = \frac{LH - (N + 0.75)}{LH/LR} + 15$$



## Step 2: Define the Point of Departure



# Look up LR:

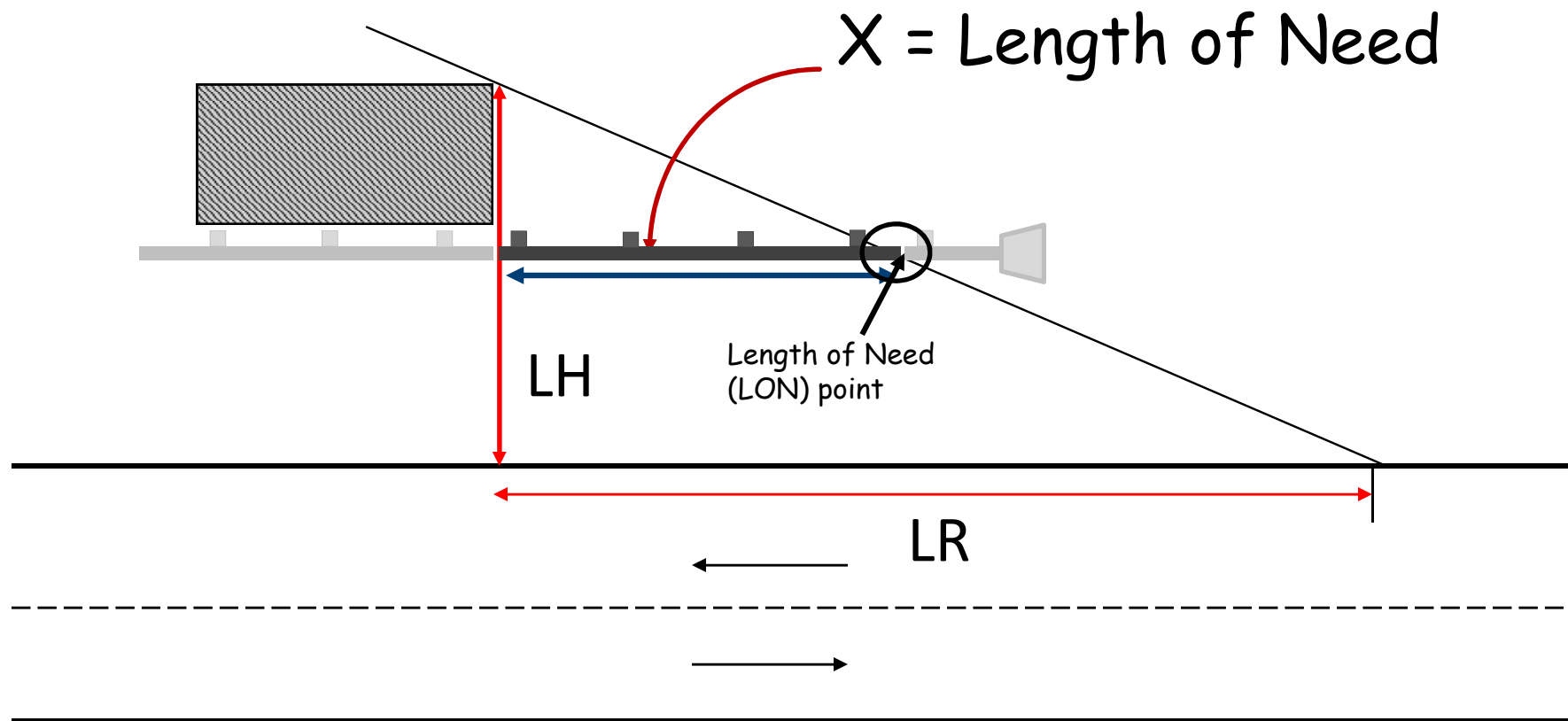
Design Speed 70 mph  
AADT = 53,000

Design Speed (mph)	Runout Length ( $L_R$ ) Given Traffic Volume (ADT) (ft)			
	Over 10,000	5,000 to 10,000	1,000 to 5,000	Under 1,000
80	470	430	380	330
70	360	330	290	250
60	300	250	210	200
50	230	190	160	150
40	160	<b>LR = 360 ft.</b>		100
30	110	90	80	70

## AASHTO Runout Lengths – LR



# Step 3: Intersect the Hypotenuse



NCDOT



Session 6

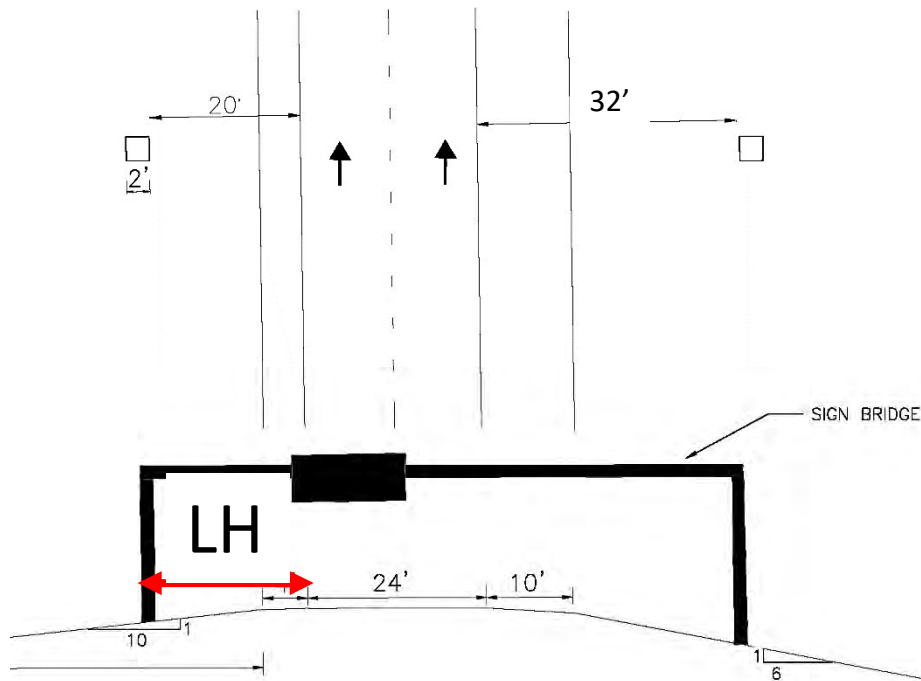


6-62

# Example – LON

N ↑

Determine LH –  
distance to the backside  
of hazard

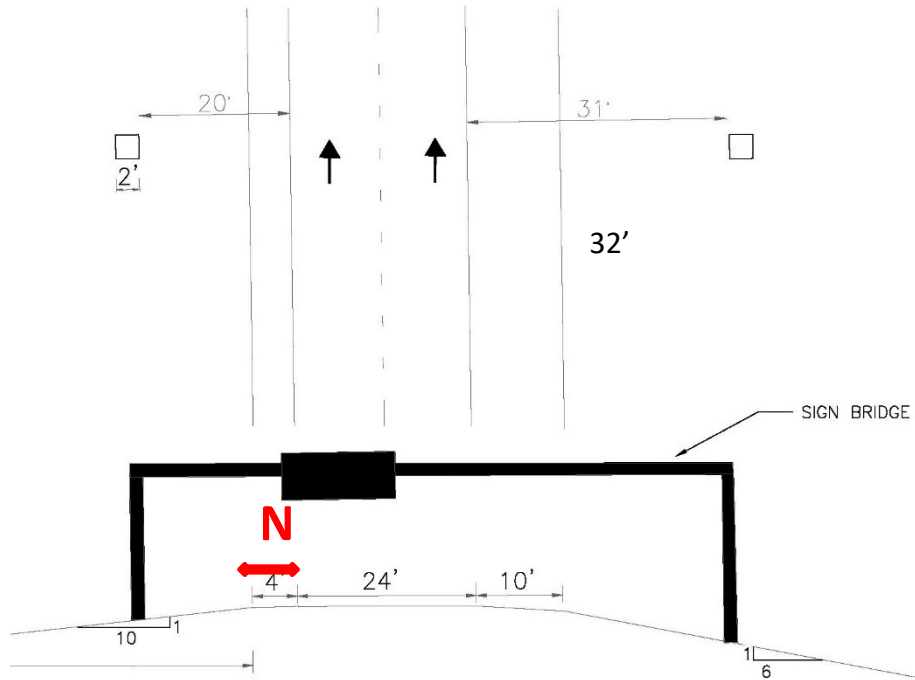


For the back of the sign  
support:

$$LH = 20 + 2 = 22'$$



# Find N



N – Guardrail offset from edge of travel lane.

$$N = 6 \text{ ft.}$$

N = The distance from the edge of the travel lane to the face of the guardrail.

N = Minimum shoulder width for locals and collectors.

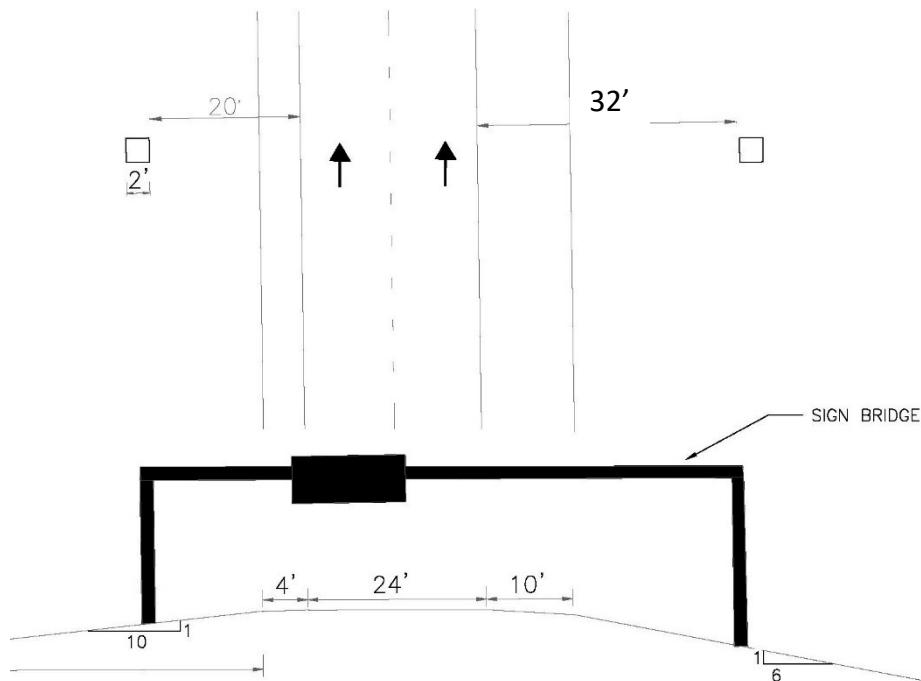
N = Usable shoulder width plus 2' for arterials, interstates and freeways.

# Calculate LON – Determine Bid Item

$$LH = 22 \text{ ft} \quad N = 6 \text{ ft} \quad LR = 360$$

Using the formula  $L =$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{LH - (N + 0.75)}{LH/LR} + 15 \\ &= \frac{22 - (6 + 0.75)}{22/360} + 15 \\ &= 249.6 + 15 = 265 \text{ ft.} \end{aligned}$$



Need Terminal: GREU (50' length of unit)

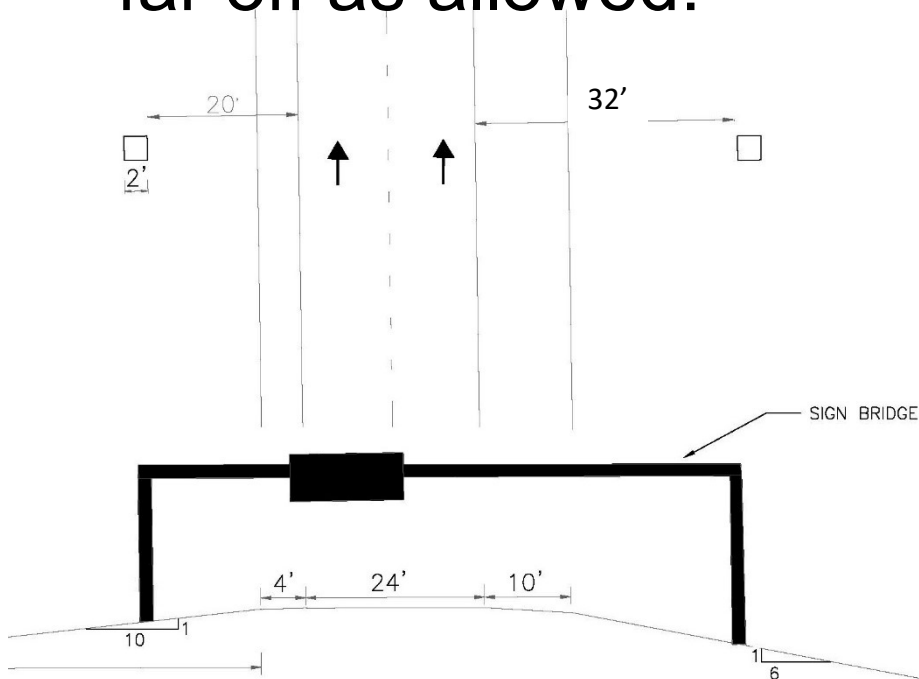
Therefore  $265 - 50 = 215$  LF of standard barrier is required; add 2' for length of hazard; add 25' for CAT-1 effectiveness; convert to panel lengths by dividing by 12.5, rounding up to whole number, and multiplying by 12.5

A CAT-1 must be added



# Calculate LON – Additional Offset

If guardrail is placed as far off as allowed:



$$LH = 22 \text{ ft} \quad N = (20' - 5.5') = 14.5' \quad LR = 360'$$

Using the formula  $L =$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \frac{LH - (N + 0.75)}{LH/LR} + 15 \\ &= \frac{22 - (14.5 + 0.75)}{22/360} + 15 \\ &= 110.5 + 15 = 126 \text{ ft.} \end{aligned}$$

A CAT-1 must be added

★ ★ BIG savings by offsetting the barrier: 126' VS 265' ★ ★

# Review Learning Outcomes

- Define the Length of Need and apply the design principles for an optimal installation
- Modify guardrail for special situations