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DESIGN DIVISION  
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**INSTRUCTIONAL BULLETIN NO. 26-03**

**Roadway Design Guidelines - PDN and Supporting Documents**

**Effective with the July 22, 2026 Turn-In (October 2, 2026 Letting)**, the Roadway Design Guidelines – PDN, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 have been revised and released for use. The following chapters and design reference documents are now available:

Roadway Design Guidelines - PDN

- Chapter 1 (General)
  - Section 1.102.00 (PROJECT FOLDER)
    - Added a fourth bullet point, “Documents relating to quality control and quality assurance,” under Category 3: Field Reviews\Public Meetings.
  - Section 1.105.01 (LINE AND GRADE PACKAGE FIELD REVIEW SUBMITTAL)
    - Added a paragraph pertaining to Quality Control review documentation above the table 1-2.
    - Updated table 1-2 and figure 1-2 by removing nnnnnn-nn-QualityControlDocs folder.
  - Section 1.105.02 (FUNCTIONAL DESIGN PLANS FIELD REVIEW SUBMITTAL PACKAGE)
    - Added a paragraph pertaining to Quality Control review documentation above the table 1-3.
    - Updated table 1-3 and figure 1-3 by removing nnnnnn-nn-QualityControlDocs folder.
  - Section 1.105.06 (PLAN-IN-HAND FIELD REVIEW SUBMITTAL PACKAGE)
    - Added a paragraph pertaining to Quality Control review documentation above table 1-7.
    - Updated table 1-7 and figure 1-7 by removing nnnnnn-nn-QualityControlDocs folder.
  - Section 1.105.07 (PS&E FIELD REVIEW SUBMITTAL PACKAGE)
    - Updated the utility plan naming convention from “nnnnnn-nn-Utility.pdf” to “nnnnnn-nn-PS&EFieldReview-Utility.pdf” as shown in Table 1-9 and Figure 1-9.
    - Added a paragraph pertaining to Quality Control review documentation above table 1-9.
    - Updated table 1-9 and figure 1-9 by removing nnnnnn-nn-QualityControlDocs folder.

- Section 1.201.00 (ROADWAY DESIGN CHECKLISTS)
  - The note directing users to resurfacing plan guidance (Chapter 5-502.00) has been removed from this section.
- Subsection 1-207.02 (STATE PROJECT NUMBERS FOR PROJECTS CROSSING MULTIPLE COUNTIES)
  - This new subsection has been added to clarify that the applicable state project number should be placed in the project number block on all plan sheets following the title sheet.
- Subsection 1-400.00 (ESTIMATED ROADWAY QUANTITIES)
  - Revised the second paragraph, along with the accompanying figure, to address concerns about the same pay item appearing in both the general roadway and alternate sections. This duplication increases the risk of unbalanced bidding by allowing the contractor to submit different prices for the same item.
- Chapter 2 (Geometric Design Criteria)
  - Section 2-1501.00 (DRIVEWAY TYPICAL SECTION AND DESIGN CRITERIA)
    - The roadway edge section reference was corrected from 5-201.04 to 2-1501.04 on the driveway typical section, Figure 2-37.
  - Subsection 2-1503.01 (GENERAL)
    - A paragraph pertaining to TDOT Policy issued as TOM 2201 has been incorporated into RDG Chapter 2, Section 1503.01. Application of the HSAM shall follow TDOT Policy 385-01. HSAM Volume 1 provides planning guidance for access management and corridor coordination. HSAM Volume 2 is to be used during project planning and scoping for intersection evaluations. HSAM Volume 3 establishes geometric design criteria for access connections and applies to new alignments, roadway widening, and major reconstruction projects, and should be used where feasible for other project types.
- Chapter 3 (Multimodal Design)
  - Section 3-400.00 (GENERAL)
    - Third paragraph has been revised to align the RDG with federal accessibility standards, including 36 CFR Part 1190, and to clarify accessibility requirements for key pedestrian facility elements.
  - Section 3-402.00 (PEDESTRIAN ROUTE SELECTION)
    - Added a new second paragraph to provide guidance aligning pedestrian route selection with federal accessibility standards (36 CFR Part 1190), emphasizing the need for continuous, unobstructed, and accessible routes. The update also links these principles to the minimum widths in Table 3-1 while maintaining the RDG's guidance-based, non-prescriptive approach.

- Section 3-403.00 (SIDEWALK DESIGN ON CURBED ROADWAYS)
  - Added new last paragraph to ensure sidewalks are designed to provide a continuous, safe, and accessible pedestrian route in compliance with PROWAG 1190 and ADA standards.
- Section 3-404.00 (SIDEWALK DESIGN ON NON-CURBED ROADWAYS)
  - The last paragraph has been revised to ensure sidewalks without curbs provide continuous, accessible pedestrian routes that comply with federal accessibility standards and connect safely to crossings and public facilities.
- Section 3-405.00 (PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AND CROSSWALK MARKINGS AT INTERSECTIONS)
  - The last paragraph was revised to ensure all pedestrian crossings and crosswalks provide safe, accessible routes in compliance with PROWAG for users of all abilities.
- Section 3-406.00 (CURB RAMPS AND DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACES)
  - The 9th paragraph was revised to ensure curb ramps and detectable warnings provide fully accessible, continuous pedestrian routes in compliance with federal accessibility standards.
- Section 3-407.00 (MIDBLOCK PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS)
  - A new paragraph has been added above the last paragraph to address continuous, accessible pedestrian routes with detectable warnings and safe refuge.
- Section 3-409.00 (PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE, CONSIDERATIONS FOR ROUNDABOUTS)
  - The last paragraph was revised to ensure roundabout pedestrian and bicycle facilities provide safe, continuous, and accessible routes for all users, in alignment with PROWAG standards.
- Section 3-410.00 (PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATION AT SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS)
  - A new last paragraph was added to ensure signalized intersections provide fully accessible, safe, and independent crossing opportunities for all pedestrians, including those with visual or mobility impairments.
- Section 3-411.00 (PEDESTRIAN TREATMENTS AT RAILROAD CROSSINGS)
  - A section was revised to ensure that railroad crossings provide continuous, safe, and fully accessible routes for all pedestrians, including those with disabilities.
- Section 3-412.00 (BARRIERS AND RAILINGS FOR PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES)
  - A section was revised to ensure that barriers and railings protect pedestrians without blocking accessible routes, keeping safety and mobility aligned.
- Section 3-418.00 (PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO TRANSIT STOPS)
  - A new last paragraph was added to ensure transit stops are not only well-located but fully accessible, providing safe and continuous pedestrian access for all users.

- Section 3-903.00 (PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL CONSIDERATIONS IN MULTIMODAL DESIGN)
  - The last paragraph was revised to emphasize designing signalized corridors with continuous accessible routes, APS, and pedestrian-focused timing to ensure safe crossings for all users, including slower walkers.
- Section 3-904.00 (MULTIMODAL ACCOMMODATIONS IN RESURFACING PROJECTS)
  - The first paragraph was revised to require detectable warning surfaces (truncated dome panels) on all curb ramps and blended transitions per PROWAG specifications, including dome spacing, height, depth, and color contrast.
- Chapter 8 (Item Number)
  - Subsection 8-202.05 (PAY ITEM SELECTION AND TABULATION FOR REMOVAL OF STRUCTURES)
    - This added new subsection clarifies when to use Item 202-01 versus individual removal items for various removal features.
  - Section 8-415.00 (COLD PLANING OF BITUMINOUS PLANT MIX PAVEMENTS)
    - The second paragraph was revised to include a sentence stating that resurfacing projects shall be paid by the ton.
  - Section 8-705.00 (GUARDRAIL)
    - Three new pay items have been added:
      - 705-06.42 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (8FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
      - 705-06.43 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (16FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
      - 705-06.44 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (8FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
- Chapter 9 (General and Special Notes)
  - Section 9-155.00 (SIGNING)
    - The signing notes were reduced from 13 to 10 by combining similar items. Notes 3 and 10 were merged into a new note 4; notes 5 and 13 were merged into a new note 6; and notes 9 and 11 were merged into a new note 9. The remaining notes were then rearranged accordingly.
  - Section 5 – PAVEMENT EDGE DROP-OFF TRAFFIC CONTROL NOTES
    - Revised blue texts pertaining to resurfacing projects.
    - Revised Note A.1.a: Removed requirement for maximum sign spacing of 2,000 feet and minimum of two signs per exposed area.
- Chapter 10 (Index and Standard Drawings)
  - Section 10-101.00 (RD18 ROADWAY TYPICAL SECTIONS AND DESIGN CRITERIA)
    - Standard Drawing RD18-TS-8 has been revised.
  - Subsection 10-101.05 (RD11 SLOPE DEVELOPMENT AND RUNOFF LENGTHS)
    - Standard Drawing RD11-SA-1 has been revised.
  - Subsection 10-102.02 (PIPE CULVERTS AND FLUME)

- The following two standard drawings have been voided.
      - D-FLU-2 (BRIDGE END DRAIN FLUME DETAILS)
      - D-FLU-2A (BRIDGE END DRAIN FLUME DETAILS)
- Subsection 10-102.03 (SAFETY CROSS DRAIN ENDWALLS)
  - Standard Drawing D-PE-30A has been revised.
- Subsection 10-106.05 (FENCES AND RIGHT-OF-WAY MARKERS)
  - Standard Drawing S-F-10B has been revised.
- Section 10-107.01 (CURB RAMPS)
  - The following standard drawings have been revised.
    - CR-GN-1 (GENERAL NOTES CURB RAMPS)
    - CR-GN-2 (CURB RAMP NUMBERING)
    - CR-DWS-1 (DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACE DETAIL)
    - CR-PLL-1 (PUSH BUTTON LOCATION LAYOUT)
    - CR-CRT-1 (CURB RAMP TYPES)
    - CR-GTL-1 (GUTTER TRANSITION LAYOUT)
    - CR-GTL-2 (GUTTER TRANSITION LAYOUT)
    - CR-PL-1 (PERPENDICULAR CURB RAMP PLACEMENT LAYOUT)
    - CR-10 (PERPENDICULAR CURB RAMP)
    - CR-11 (PERPENDICULAR CURB RAMP WITH BRICK DETAILS)
    - CR-PL-2 (PARALLEL CURB RAMP PLACEMENT LAYOUT)
    - CR-20 (PARALLEL CURB RAMP 5 – FT SIDEWALK)
    - CR-21 (COMBINATION RAMP USED WITH WIDE SIDEWALK)
    - CR-22 (COMBINATION CURB RAMP)
    - CR-23 (PARALLEL CURB RAMP WITH EXISTING BRICK)
    - CR-30 (CURB RAMPS IN CURVE BI-DIRECTIONAL DUAL CROSSING)
    - CR-31 (BLENDED TRANSITION BI-DIRECTIONAL)
    - CR-32 (LOWERED CORNER RAMP)
    - CR-33 (SINGLE CROSSING CURB RAMP IN CURVE)
    - CR-34 (SINGLE CROSSING CURB RAMP IN CURVE)
    - CR-40 (MONO-DIRECTIONAL SINGLE CROSSWALK CURB RAMP DETAILS)
    - CR-41 (SINGLE CROSSING CURB RAMP IN CURVE)
    - CR-50 (PEDESTRIAN REFUGE)
    - CR-51 (PEDESTRIAN REFUGE)
- Section 10-107.02 (SAFETY RAIL)
  - The following standard drawings have been revised.
    - MM-PM-1 (SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS AT INTERSECTION CROSSINGS FOR SHARED-USE PATHS)
    - MM-PM-2 (SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS FOR BICYCLE LANE OR ROUTES)
    - MM-PM-3 (SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS FOR BICYCLE LANES ON URBAN ROADWAYS)
    - MM-PM-4 (SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS FOR BICYCLE LANES)
    - MM-PM-5 (SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS FOR BICYCLE LANES AT INTERSECTIONS)
- Section 10-107.03 (PAVEMENT MARKINGS)

- The following standard drawing has been revised.
  - ➡ MM-VPR-1 (VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY RAIL)
- Section 10-107.04 (SIDEWALK)
  - The following standard drawings have been revised.
    - ➡ MM-PS-1 (DETAILS FOR PEDESTRIAN STEPS AND HANDRAILS)
    - ➡ MM-SW-1 (DETAILS FOR CONCRETE SIDEWALK)
    - ➡ MM-SW-2 (ALTERNATE DETAILS FOR CONCRETE SIDEWALK (REHABILITATION))
- Section 10-107.05 (TYPICAL SECTION)
  - The following standard drawings have been revised.
    - ➡ MM-TS-1 (BIKE ACCOMMODATION DESIGN GUIDANCE)
    - ➡ MM-TS-2 (LATERAL OFFSETS FOR SIDEWALK AND SHARED USE PATH)
    - ➡ MM-TS-3 (SEPARATED SHARED USE PATH TYPICAL SECTIONS)
- Section 10-108.01 (CLEAR ZONE AND SAFETY PLANS)
  - The following standard drawings have been revised.
    - ➡ S-PL-6 (SAFETY PLAN SAFETY HARDWARE PLACEMENT ON OUTSIDE EDGE)
    - ➡ S-PL-7 (SAFETY PLAN HARDWARE PLACEMENT AT INTERSECTIONS)
- Section 10-108.06 (GUARDRAIL (SPECIAL CASES))
  - The following standard drawing has been revised.
    - ➡ S-GRS-7 (SHORT – RADIUS - GR SYSTEM (SRGS) CONNECTION TO BRIDGE END)
  - The following new standard drawing has been added.
    - ➡ S-GRS-7C (SHORT – RADIUS GUARDRAIL SYSTEM (SRGS) TO GUARDRAIL CONNECTION)
- Section 10-201.00 (SIGNALS)
  - The following standard drawing has been revised in accordance with Traffic Memorandum No. 2601, released on 02/04/2026.
    - ➡ T-SG-7D (TYPICAL SIGNAL HEAD PLACEMENT - TWO-LANE APPROACHES)

## Design Reference Documents

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheet Documents
  - General Notes (V8i & Word)
    - ➡ Revised Section 9-155.00 (Signing) to align updates made in RDG Chapter 9.
  - Index and Standard Roadway Drawings, Standard Roadway Drawings, and Standard Traffic Design Drawings (V8i & Word)
    - ➡ The documents were revised to reflect updates to RDG chapter 10.
  - Standard Structure Drawings (V8i & Word)

- Corrected the reference under section 10-301.00 LRFD Box Culverts from Section 2-600.01 to Section 2-1200.01 (Type Designation).
- Pavement Edge Drop-Off Notes (V8i & Word)
  - Revised blue texts pertaining to resurfacing projects.
  - Revised Note A.1.a: Removed requirement for maximum sign spacing of 2,000 feet and minimum of two signs per exposed area.
- Estimated Roadway Quantities Excel File
  - Updated the note related to item 716-12.02 in the Specific Notes & Footnotes Related to Special Items section of the Roadway Design Guidelines tabulations.
  - Updated utility adjustments tabulation header from UTILITY ADJUSTMENTS (RESURF) to UTILITY ADJUSTMENTS (BY OWNER).
  - Added a note at the bottom of the Project Data tabulation for projects with alternate section(s).
- Items.dat Revised Standard Roadway Drawing RD-L-1, Standard Legend.
  - Updated to include the three new guardrail pay items:
    - 705-06.42 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (8FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
    - 705-06.43 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (16FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
    - 705-06.44 (SHORT-RADIUS GR SYSTEM TO GR CONN (8FT RADIUS) MASH TL-3)
- Design Exception Request Form
  - Added Contextual Range and Standard columns to the Geometric Design Controlling Criteria table and updated the Exception column to include “Yes – Justification in PN & PSG.”
  - Revised the third statement in the Safety category.
  - Revised the second, third, and fourth statements in the Operations category.
- Design Waiver Request Form
  - Revised the third statement in the Safety category.
  - Revised the second, third, and fourth statements in the Operations category.
- PS&E Design Checklist
  - Revised RDG chapter 1 reference from section 1-105.10 to 1-105.09.
  - Updated the figure name in the Estimates section from “*Figure 1-11A, Estimates PS&E Example*” to “*Estimates PS&E Submittal Package Example*” to match the RDG.
  - Revised Project Notebook file extension from (.pdf) to (.xlsm) in the Reports section.
  - Added reference to “*Table 1-12C Construction Letting Files Submittal Package List Example*” in the Construction Letting Files section.
- Project Deliverables
  - Updated information to align with the Roadway Design Guidelines.
- Specific Notes & Footnotes Related to Special Items in the RDG
  - Updated note related to item 716-12.02.
- Submittal Templates
  - Final PS&E
    - Updated *Letting Submittal.xlsx* by adding a new column for the Preconstruction PM in the Awarded Projects tab.

- New R.O.W. Exhibit Submittal Template

#### R.O.W. Tract Exhibits Documents and Files

- The following documents have been updated:
  - R.O.W. Exhibit File Structure
  - R.O.W. Exhibit Walkthrough
  - R.O.W. Exhibits Template DGN (V8i)
- The following are new:
  - R.O.W. Exhibits Example
  - R.O.W. Exhibits Driveway Profile Template DGN (V8i)

#### OpenRoads Designer (ORD)

- (Updated) Requirement for Model-Centric Design document - Section 5.3.1 Project Notebook
- (Updated) Project Notebook (xlsm)

For any questions about the PDN process, contact TDOT Program Delivery.

For any questions about the RDG, contact TDOT Production Support at [TDOT.EngineeringProductionSupport@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.EngineeringProductionSupport@tn.gov).

#### Revised Links:

[Roadway Design Guidelines-PDN and Reference Documents](#)  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Sheets Documents](#)  
[Design Except Request Form](#)  
[Design Waiver Request Form](#)  
[R.O.W. Exhibits Quick Guides and Related Files](#)  
[Standard Design CADD Files \(MicroStation\)](#)  
[ORD Resources](#)  
[Standard Geodetics Files and Documents](#)

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