

Christina Freeman, P.E. & Yukai Yang FDOT Structures Research Lab

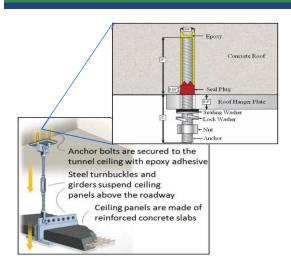
Transportation Symposium Website



9:35am-10:30am October 29, 2025

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Introduction & Motivation



Collapse of Big Dig Ceiling in Boston Is Tied to Glue

Share full article



A year ago Wednesday, a woman died in the collapse of the ceiling of a Big Dig tunnel in Boston. A report on the collapse was released Tuesday.

Michael Dwyer/Associated Press

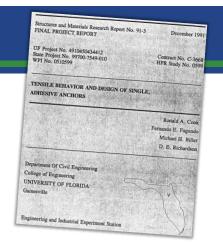
By Matthew L. Wald

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In the early years...

- 1990's FDOT began sponsoring formal research on Adhesive Bonded & Grouted Anchors for Concrete Fastening.
- 1991 Dr. Ron Cook published <u>Tensile</u> <u>Behavior and Design of Single Adhesive</u> <u>Anchors</u>, FDOT WPI 0510599.
- 1991 ACI 355 committee Task Group began developing a "Design Guide" to provide design examples for comparison of the Concrete Capacity Design (CCD) method to the ACI 349 Appendix B 45-degree cone method.



ACI 355 Task Group for CCD Method Guide Rich Klingner, ACI 355 Task Group Chair Pete Carrato Ron Cook Rolf Eligehausen

Harry Wiewel Dick Wollmershauser

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In the early years...

- 1996 Dr. Ron Cook published <u>Specifications for Adhesive-Bonded</u> <u>Anchors and Dowels</u>, FDOT WPI 0510662.
- 1999 Structures Design Guidelines updated (Section 7.15)
- 1999 FDOT Specifications 416 & 937 introduced and Type "J" epoxy removed.
- 2000 FDOT FM 5-568 Test Method published

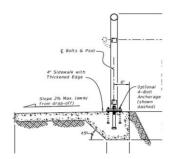


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BDV28 TWO 977-06

 Confinement Effect of Metal Railing Narrow Baseplates on Adhesive Anchor Breakout Resistance





- Principal Investigator: Nakin Suksawang, PhD, PE
- · Project Manager: Steven Nolan, PE
- · Completed: 2019

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Project Objectives

- To optimize the adhesive anchor bolt edge distances and embedment depths for the installation of steel pedestrian/bicycle railings.
- Review and identify the effect of confinement (e.g., Ψm) of metal railing narrow baseplates on adhesive anchors breakout resistance.
- Develop designs for standard metal railings with reduced edge distances and embedment for sidewalks and retaining walls.
- Develop recommendation for general design procedure modifications to be expanded for other structural applications.

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A total of 33 specimens were tested: 27 block specimens in Schemes 1 and 3, and 6 gravity-wall specimens in Scheme 2, covering embedments of 4, 6, 9, and 12 inches with edge distances ranging from 3 to 15 inches.

Class NS Concrete
7/8" anchor bolt
1/8" bearing pad
Pedestrian post was fabricated in accordance with Index 852
(now 515-052)

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Experimental Modeling, Casting, and Field Preparation

- Concrete placement for the specimens was performed in accordance with ASTM C31/C31M, with sampling in accordance with ASTM C172
- Compressive strength: 2500psi



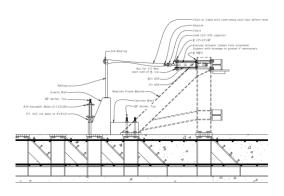


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Test Matrix

• Scheme 1 — Concrete Blocks (large edge distance; focus on confinement + embedment)

Sample	Embedment (in)	Edge distance (in)	Loading point (in)	Repeats
S9	9.0	15.0	37.5	3
S6	6.0	10.5	37.5	3
S4	4.0	7.5	37.5	3

• Scheme 2 — 3-ft Gravity Walls (confinement + embedment + reinforcement layout)

Sample	Description	Embedment (in)	Edge distance (in)	Loading point (in)	Repeats
W12	Standard reinforcement	12.0	4.0	32.5	2
W9	Standard reinforcement	9.0	4.0	32.5	2
W9-X	Tighter vertical bars (1' c/c vs 1'-6")	9.0	4.0	32.5	2

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Test Matrix

• Scheme 3 — Concrete Blocks with Reduced Edge Distance

Sample	Embedment (in)	Edge distance (in)	Loading Point (in)	Repeats
S9-6	9.00	6.00	37.50	3
S9-4.5	9.00	4.50	37.50	3
S9-3	9.00	3.00	37.50	3
S6-6	6.00	6.00	37.50	3
S6-4.5	6.00	4.50	37.50	3
S6-3	6.00	3.00	37.50	3

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Result

• Scheme 1 – Confinement effect without edge distance

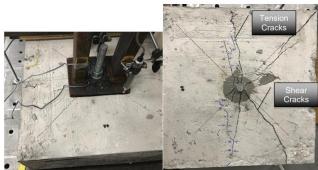


Figure 19: Typical Concrete Breakout/Pry-Out Failures Found in Concrete Block Specimens

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Result

• Scheme 2 — Gravity walls (reinforced tops)











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Result

• Scheme 3 — Reduced edge distance (6 in ightarrow 4.5 in ightarrow 3 in)



	Scheme 3					
Sample	S9-6	S9-4.5	S9-3	S6-6	S6-4.5	S6-3
Embedment, h _{ef} (in)	9.00	9.00	9.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Edge Distance, Ca1 (in)	6.00	4.50	3.00	6.00	4.50	3.00
Loading Point, L (in)	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50
Concrete Strength (psi)			325	58		
Formation and all Trees	29579	24032	21740	21879	20949	13500
Experimental Test Results (lbs)	27705	26431	25320	18155	21870	14580
Results (IDS)	26895	24756	19760	24867	18450	12750
Average	28060	25073	22273	21634	20423	13610
SDG Procedure						
Tensile Strength, N₅	27059	27059	27059	27059	27059	27059
Adhesive Bond, No	20669	17056	13764	13779	11371	9176
ACI Procedure						
Tensile Strength, N _{sa}	34630	34630	34630	34630	34630	34630
Adhesive Bond, Na	9680	9096	8513	10231	9614	8997
Concrete Breakout, N _{cb}	16764	14855	13050	12018	10216	8546

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BDV28 TWO 977-09 Screw Anchors

 Confinement Effect of Narrow Baseplates or Reaction Area on Anchor Breakout, Part 2



- Principal Investigator: Nakin Suksawang, PhD, PE
- · Project Manager: Steven Nolan, PE
- Completed: 2023

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Project Objectives

- Review and identify the effect of confinement of narrow baseplates or reaction area on screw anchors breakout resistance.
- Determine the effect of anchor groups and configurations on the anchor breakout resistance.
- Determine the failure mechanism and appropriate confinement modification factor of screw anchors used in various applications.
- Determine the screw anchors' performance under cyclic loads.
- Develop new FDOT Structures Design Guidelines criteria for screw anchors with confinement effects.
- Develop modified FDOT Structures Design Guidelines criteria for adhesive anchors with confinement effects if necessary.

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45 specimens in total: Scheme 1 (Pedestrian) had 14 (sidewalk 5—three later cycled, gravity wall 5, parapet 4); Scheme 2 (Guiderail) had 14 (sidewalk 5—four later cycled, gravity wall 6, parapet 3); Scheme 3 (Bullet Railing) had 6 parapet specimens (three with 8-in anchors and three with 6-in anchors); and Scheme 4 (Modified Pedestrian/Picket) had 11 (sidewalk 7, gravity wall 2, parapet 2). Aggregated by foundation, that's 17 sidewalks, 13 gravity walls, and 15 parapets.

Class NS Concrete-Pedestrian & Guiderail Class II Concrete- Parapet 3/4" screw anchor 5/8" screw anchor

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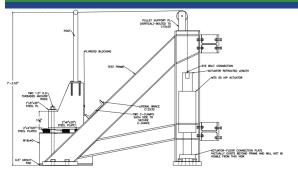
Experimental Modeling, Casting, and Field Preparation

- Concrete placement for the specimens was performed in accordance with ASTM C31/C31M, with sampling in accordance with ASTM C172
- Compressive strength: 3500psi



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- Monotonic loading—ramped to failure in roughly 5–10 minutes
- Cyclic loading at 0.25 Hz for at least 1,000 cycles

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Test Matrix

• Scheme 1 — Pedestrian / Picket Railing

Foundation	Anchors	Anchor size × length	Edge to baseplate CL	Notes
Sidewalk (1-bolt)	1	³ / ₄ " × 8.5"	6.0"	Monotonic + cyclic
Gravity Wall (1-bolt)	1	³ / ₄ " × 8.5"	4.5"	Monotonic only
Parapet (1-bolt)	1	³ / ₄ " × 8.5"	4.0"	Monotonic only

• Scheme 2 — Guiderail

Foundation	Anchors	Anchor size × length	Anchor spacing	Edge to baseplate CL	Notes
Sidewalk (2-bolt)	2	³ / ₄ " × 6"	5"	6.0"	Monotonic + cyclic
Gravity Wall (2-bolt)	2	³ / ₄ " × 6"	5"	4.5"	Monotonic
Parapet (2-bolt)	2	3/4" × 6"	5"	4.0"	Monotonic

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Test Matrix

Scheme 3 — Parapet Railing

Foundation	Anchors	Anchor size × length	Anchor spacing	Edge to baseplate CL	Notes
Parapet (2-bolt)	2	$\frac{5}{8}$ " × 6" and 8"	3"	4.0"	Monotonic only

Scheme 4 — Modified Pedestrian/Picket

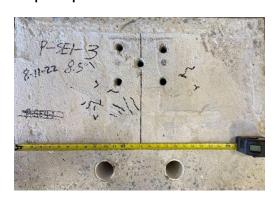
Foundation	Anchors	Anchor size × length	Edge to baseplate CL	Notes
Sidewalk (3-bolt)	3	3/8" × 6"	3.0"	monotonic only
Gravity Wall (3-bolt)	3	3/8" × 6"	3.0"	Two specimens
Parapet (3-bolt)	3	3/8" × 6"	3.0"	Two specimens

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Result

 Scheme 1 — Pedestrian/picket rail on sidewalk, gravity wall, and parapet





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Result

 Scheme 2 — Guiderail behavior and why some multipliers look smaller





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Result

• Scheme 3 — Bullet rail on parapet; anchor length sensitivity





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Result

 Scheme 4 — Modified pedestrian/picket (3-bolt) and what it implies for SDG





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Result

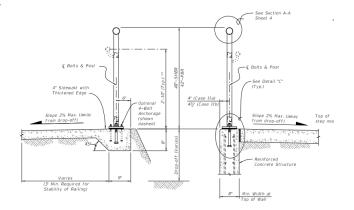
- Capacities exceeded ACI 318-19 nominal strengths across configurations; sidewalk multipliers were lower only because the guiderail/baseplate yielded first (test stopped before concrete anchorage failure).
- Cyclic loading showed no degradation; anchors performed the same after cycling (seismic qualification per ACI 355.2 still required).
- Design resistance factor: using φ = 0.75 generally makes factored resistance ≥ design load; φ = 0.65 (ACI) fails several cases. Adopt φ = 0.75 for design and for evaluating future tests.
- Fractile approach: 5% fractile and φ = 0.75 is over-conservative; recommend using average test results instead (pullout/pry-out were not abrupt like cone breakout).

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Implementation

• FDOT Standard Plan 515-062

	ANCHOR BOLT TABLE						
CASE	STRUCTURE	DIMENSIONS			ANCHOR LENGTH		
CASE	TYPE	"A" Edge Dist.	"B" Edge Dist.	"C" Embedment	C.I.P Hex Head Bolt	Adhesive Anchor	ANCHOR SIZE
1	Unreinforced Concrete	6"	1'-2"	6"	7½"	8'	%" 0
Ha	Reinforced Concrete	4"	4"	9"	10½"	11"	%° 0
IIb	Gravity Wall Index 400-011	4½"	3½" @ top	9"	10½"	11"	Nº 0
III	Step Cheekwall	4½"	4½"	9"	10½"	11"	%" 0
IV	Varies	5"	5"	5"	6½"	7"	% ø

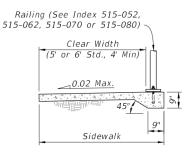


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Implementation

• FDOT Standard Plan 522-001



Varies Based on Railing Used

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Implementation

Structures Design Guidelines

- Adhesive anchors: use only when installation & creep are controlled; not allowed if sustained tension > 30% of φN_t.
- Design basis: target ductile, steel-governed failure
 → embed to reach 125% Fy (or 100% Fu); in shear,
 use 70% of the embedment length.
- Undercut & screw anchors: align with ACI 318 Ch. 17 / ACI 355.2; assume cracked concrete; φ = 0.75 for breakout.
- Durability & process: stainless steel required outdoors; galvanized allowed only outside splash zones; selection/install per APL & Dev 416/937 specs

1.6 POST-INSTALLED ANCHOR SYSTEMS

1.6.1 General

- A. Post-Installed Anchor Systems are used to attach new construction to structurally sound concrete. Post-Installed Anchor Systems shall be limited to:
 - Adhesive Bonded Anchor Systems with adhesive bonding material listed on the Department's Approved Products List (APL).
 - Undercut Anchor and Screw Anchor Systems as approved on a project-by-project basis by the DSDE and the SSDE.

Delete *LRFD* 5.13. Design criteria and specific usage limitations for these anchor systems are provided in the following sections.

- B. Specify an Adhesive Bonded, Undercut, or Screw Anchor System based on the specific usage limitations contained herein, product availability, installation and testling requirements, construction sequence and potential associated traffic control requirements, and all associated costs.
- Commentary: Consider the adhesive bonding material cure time required between installation and field testing of adhesive bonded anchors when developing construction sequence and/or traffic control plans.

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Implementation

Developmental Specifications Dev416PIAS and Dev937PIAS





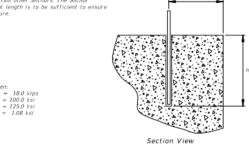
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Design Example

Design Example 1 - Single Anchor Away from Edges and Other Anchors

Design an adhesive anchor using threaded rod (ASTM A193, Grade B7) for a Factored tension load of 18 kips. The anchor is located more than 8 anchor diameters from edges and is isolated from other anchors. The anchor embedment length is to be sufficient to ensure steel failure.



Design Procedure Example 1 See Figure 1	Calculation
Step 1 - Determine required rod diamete	r
Determine the required diameter of the threaded rod by setting the factored tension load equal to the design steel strength.	N _u - N _s
The effective area for the threaded rod may be taken as 75% of the gross area. As with reinforcing bars, the minimum specified yield strength of the rod is used to determine the required diameter.	$\begin{aligned} &N_s = \varphi_s A_e f_y \\ &\text{Where: } &\varphi_s = 0.9 \ ; \ A_e = 0.75 (\pi d^2/4); \\ &\text{and } f_y = 100 \ \text{ksi} \end{aligned}$
Substituting and solving for d:	18 = $(0.9)[(\pi d^2/4)](100)$ d = 0.583 in. therefore, use 5/8° threaded rod.
Step 2 - Determine required embedment	length to ensure steel failure
Basic equation for embedment length calculation. Since there are no edge or spacing concerns, $\Psi_{\mathbf{g}n}$ may be taken as unity.	$\begin{split} & \textbf{N}_c = \boldsymbol{\varphi}_c \boldsymbol{\Psi}_e \boldsymbol{\Psi}_g \textbf{N}_o \; \text{(for embedment)} \\ & \text{Where: } \boldsymbol{\varphi}_c = \textbf{0.85} \; ; \\ & \boldsymbol{\Psi}_e, \boldsymbol{\Psi}_g = \textbf{1.0} \; \text{(no edge/spacing concern); and } \boldsymbol{N}_o = \textbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi} \; \textbf{d} \; \textbf{h}_e \end{split}$
For ductile behavior it is necessary to embed the anchor sufficiently to develop 125% of the yield strength or 100% of the ultimate strength, whichever is less.	$N_c(req'd) = 1.25 A_e f_y \le A_e f_u$
Determine the effective area for a 5/8" threaded rod:	$A_e = 0.75 (\pi 0.625^2/4)$ $A_e = 0.23 \text{ in}^2$
Determine the required tension force, N _C (req'd), to ensure ductile behavior.	$\begin{split} &N_{c}(req'd) = 1.25A_{e}f_{y} \leq A_{e}f_{u}\\ &N_{c}(req'd) - 1.25(0.23\chi 100) \leq (0.23\chi 125)\\ &N_{c}(req'd) = 28.75\text{kips} = 28.75\text{kips}\\ &\text{therefore, use }N_{c}(req'd) = 28.75\text{kips} \end{split}$
Substituting and solving for h _e :	28.75 = 0.85 (1.0) (1.0) (1.08) π (.625) h_e

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Safety Message



BUCKLE UP. EVERY TRIP, EVERY TIME!



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Contact Us





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Please be sure to **certify your attendance** before leaving this event or no later than November 30th, in order to receive PDH/CEC. Detailed instructions are available on the Transportation Symposium website.

> Transportation Symposium Website

