FDOT

FY 2017-18 Design Standards

Effective for Projects with Lettings in the Fiscal Year (FY) from

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

For Construction and Maintenance Operations
on the State Highway System
Topic No. 625-010-003

State of Florida Department of Transportation
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FDOT FY 2017-18 Design Standards

NOTICE

The Design Standards are intended to support the various engineering processes for construction and maintenance operations on the State Highway System. They are established to ensure the application of uniform standards in the preparation of contract plans for construction of roadways and structures. These Standards may be used for maintenance operations or adopted by other authorities for use on projects under their jurisdiction.

It is the responsibility of the Engineer of Record using these Standards to determine the fitness for a particular use of each standard in the design of a project. The inappropriate use of and adherence to these standards does not exempt the engineer from the professional responsibility of developing an appropriate design.

PATENTED DEVICES, MATERIALS AND PROCESSES

The use of any design, method, process, material or device either expressed or implied by these standards that are covered by patent, copyright, or proprietary privilege is the sole responsibility of the user. Any infringement on the rights of the inventor, patentee, assignee or licensee shall be the sole responsibility of the user. For additional information refer to Subsection 7–3 of the FDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.

DISTRIBUTION OF EXEMPT PUBLIC DOCUMENTS:

*It is the policy of the Department to protect the State Highway System's infrastructure by defining the responsibilities for disclosure and use of sensitive documents showing the structural elements used in the design and construction of Department structures. **Section 119.071(3)(b), Florida Statute (F.S.),** provides that these sensitive documents are exempt from Chapter 119, F.S., Florida's public records law. In accordance with Section 119.071(3)(b), F.S., the Department has adopted **Procedure 050–020–026, Distribution of Exempt Public Documents Concerning Department Structures and Security System Plans**, to define the method and responsibilities for disclosure and use of these sensitive documents.*

*Structure is defined in Section 334.03(27), F.S., as "a bridge, viaduct, tunnel, causeway, approach, ferry slip, culvert, toll plaza, gate, or other similar facility used in connection with a transportation facility" which would include related pipes and pipe systems. However, for the purpose of the public records law and **Procedure 050–020–026**, the Department has determined that the term "structure" includes "bridges with an opening of more than 20 feet between undercopings of abutments or spring lines of arches or extreme ends of openings for multiple boxes, and those other bridges subject to safety inspection under **Section 335.074, F.S.**" A roadway is not otherwise a structure for the purposes of **Procedure 050–020–026**.*

*Therefore, plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, and diagrams of structures owned by the Department are exempt from the public records provisions of Chapter 119, F.S. This exemption includes draft, preliminary, and final formats as described in **Procedure 050–020–026** and includes paper, electronic, and other formats. The Department has provided for the limited release of such documents in **Procedure 050–020–026**.*

*Entities or persons outside the Department requesting or receiving copies of any portion of plans or other documents considered Exempt Documents under **Procedure 050–020–026** must complete and submit a request form (**Form No. 050–020–26**). The form also advises the requestor that the entity or person receiving the documents shall maintain their exempt status. This procedure applies to all Department internal or contracted staff who have access to such Exempt Documents in their Department work. Refer to **Procedure 050–020–026** for additional requirements.*

The official version of the Design Standards is the PDF version and can be found at:
http://www.fdot.gov/rddesign/DesignStandards/Standards.shtm

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I hereby certify that these Design Standards were compiled under my responsible charge from designs prepared, examined, adopted, and implemented by the Florida Department of Transportation in accordance with established procedures, and as approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

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Approved For Use On Federal Aid Projects

James Christian, Division Administrator

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