



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DESIGN DIVISION  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0348

INSTRUCTIONAL BULLETIN NO. 07-11

**Regarding Standard Drawing for Low Volume (ADT  $\leq$  400) Local Roads**

**Effective immediately**, standard drawing RD01-TS-1A should be used for the design of low-volume (current ADT  $\leq$  400) roadways classified as local roads for all projects begun after April 20, 2007 instead of standard drawing RD01-TS-1. For additional guidance not covered on the standard drawing, designers should reference AASHTO "Guidelines for Geometric Design of Very Low-Volume Local Roads (ADT  $\leq$  400)," 2001. For projects with design speeds greater than 40 mph, designers shall continue using standard drawing RD01-TS-1. Any exception to the use of standard drawing RD01-TS-1A on low volume local roads should be approved by the Design Division Director or the appropriate Assistant Director.

Until the drawing is added to the standard drawings, it is to be printed with the plans. The drawings shall be identified on the lower left side of the index sheet "**To be printed with plans**".

A copy of the drawing is attached. No metric standard drawing will be developed for this application.

**ROADWAY DESIGN STANDARDS – ENGLISH**

| <u>Drawing Number</u> | <u>Current Revision Date</u> | <u>Drawing Title</u>   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| RD01-TS-1A            |                              | DESIGN STANDARDS FOR LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROADS (ADT $\leq$ 400) |

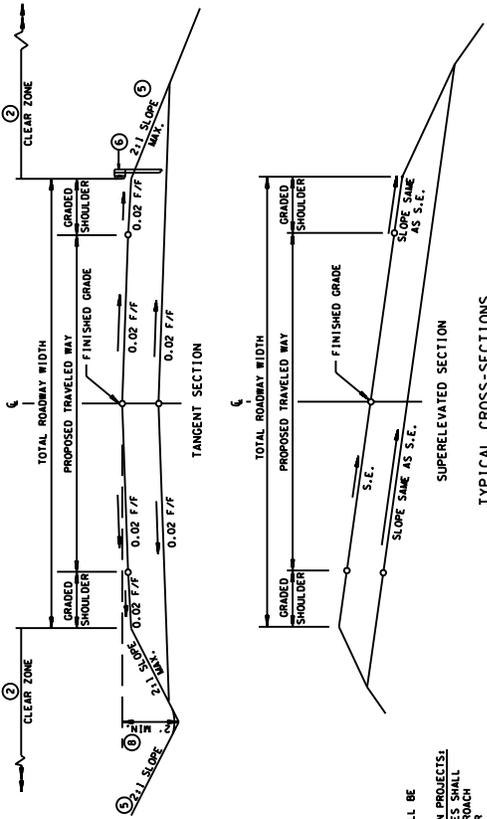
Original signed by Jeff C. Jones  
Jeff C. Jones, Civil Engineering Director  
Design Division

April 20, 2007  
JCJ:MJA:mja  
Attachment

**GENERAL NOTES**

- 1 THIS STANDARD DRAWING IS INTENDED TO BE USED FOR THE DESIGN OF LOW-VOLUME (CURRENT ADT < 400) ROADWAYS CLASSIFIED AS LOCAL ROADS. FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE NOT COVERED ON THIS SHEET, REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE TO AASHTO "GUIDELINES FOR GEOMETRIC DESIGN OF VERY LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROADS (ADT < 400)", 2001.
- 2 PROJECT WITH DESIGN SPEEDS GREATER THAN 40 MPH SHALL USE STANDARD DRAWING RD01-15-1.
- 3 FOR INTERSECTION SIGHT DISTANCE, SEE PAGES 40 TO 47 OF THE AASHTO "GUIDELINES FOR GEOMETRIC DESIGN OF VERY LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROADS (ADT < 400)", 2001.
- 4 IF NO ABOVE GROUND UTILITIES ARE INVOLVED, MINIMUM RIGHT-OF-WAY SHOULD BE TRAVELWAY PLUS CLEAR ZONE.
- 5 IF ABOVE GROUND UTILITIES ARE INVOLVED, MINIMUM RIGHT-OF-WAY SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO ACCOMMODATE THE UTILITIES OUTSIDE THE CLEAR ZONE.
- 6 DESIGNER SHOULD CONSIDER ANY KNOWN SITE-SPECIFIC SAFETY PROBLEMS AND TYPICAL DAILY USE OF THE ROADWAY WHEN DETERMINING ROADWAY GEOMETRIES ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. SITE-SPECIFIC SAFETY PROBLEMS MAY BE INDICATED BY CRASH DATA, SKID MARKS, ROADSIDE DAMAGE, SPEED DATA, OR CONCERNS RAISED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS POLICE OR LOCAL RESIDENTS.
- 7 FOR EXISTING ROADS, CROSS-SECTION WIDTHS NEED NOT BE MODIFIED, EXCEPT IN THOSE CASES WHERE THERE IS KNOWN EVIDENCE OF A SITE-SPECIFIC SAFETY PROBLEM AS LONG AS THE MINIMUM CRITERIA, AS SHOWN IN THE TABLE BELOW, IS MET.
- 8 FOR THIS STANDARD THE FOLLOWING ARE THE POSSIBLE ROADWAY USES:
  - A. RURAL LOCAL ROADS SERVE A DUAL FUNCTION OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO ADJUTING PROPERTIES AS WELL AS PROVIDING THROUGH OR CONNECTING SERVICE BETWEEN OTHER LOCAL ROADS.
  - B. RECREATIONAL AND SCENIC ROADS SERVE SPECIALIZED LAND USES, INCLUDING PARKS, TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, AND RECREATION FACILITIES, SUCH AS CAMPSITE OR BOAT-LAUNCH FACILITIES.
  - C. INDUSTRIAL OR COMMERCIAL ACCESS ROADS SERVE DEVELOPMENTS THAT MAY GENERATE A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF TRUCK OR OTHER HEAVY VEHICLE TRAFFIC.
  - D. URBAN LOCAL ROADWAYS SERVE A DUAL FUNCTION OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO ADJUTING PROPERTIES AS WELL AS PROVIDING THROUGH OR CONNECTING SERVICE BETWEEN OTHER LOCAL ROADS.
- 9 ROADWAY SURFACE TYPE SHOULD MATCH EXISTING SURFACE OR SHALL BE DETERMINED BY LOCAL ENGINEER. WHEN EXISTING SURFACE IS ASPHALT, SEE DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR PAVEMENT DESIGN GUIDANCE.

DESIGN LOADING:  
 ALL NEW AND REHABILITATED BRIDGES SHALL BE DESIGNED FOR HL-93 LOADING.  
 FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, THE MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTH FOR NEW BRIDGES SHALL BE 18 FEET. FOR EXISTING BRIDGES, THE MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTH AS APPLICABLE.



**TABLE 2**  
 MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTHS AND DESIGN LOADINGS FOR NEW AND RECONSTRUCTED BRIDGES

| DESIGN ADT (VEH/DAY) | DESIGN LOADING (STRUCTURAL CAPACITY) | MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTH (FEET) |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0 TO 100             | HL-93                                | 18                         |
| 101 TO 400           | HL-93                                | 20                         |

**TABLE 3**  
 MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTHS AND DESIGN LOADINGS FOR EXISTING BRIDGES TO REMAIN IN PLACE

| DESIGN ADT (VEH/DAY) | DESIGN LOADING (STRUCTURAL CAPACITY) | MINIMUM CLEAR WIDTH (FEET) |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0 TO 100             | R-15                                 | 18                         |
| 101 TO 400           | R-15                                 | 20                         |

**TABLE 1**

**DESIGN STANDARDS FOR LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROADS AND STREETS (ADT < 400)**

| DESIGN SPEED (MPH)  | 15   | 20  | 25  | 30  | 35  | 40  |
|---|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>MINIMUM TOTAL ROADWAY WIDTH BY USE (FEET)</b>            | 15   | 18  | 18  | 18  | 18  | 20  |
| <b>RECREATIONAL AND SCENIC ROADS</b>                        | 18   | 18  | 18  | 18  | 18  | 20  |
| <b>INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL ACCESS</b>                         | 20   | 20  | 21  | 23  | 23  | 23  |
| <b>URBAN LOCAL ROADS</b>                                    | 20   | 20  | 20  | 20  | 20  | 20  |
| <b>LOW DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (2.0 OR LESS DWELLINGS/ACRE)</b> | 20   | 20  | 20  | 20  | 20  | 20  |
| <b>MEDIUM DEVELOPMENT DENSITY (2.1 TO 6 DWELLINGS/ACRE)</b> | 28   | 28  | 28  | 28  | 28  | 28  |
| <b>RURAL LOCAL, RECREATIONAL AND SCENIC ACCESS ROADS</b>    | 15   | 15  | 20  | 20  | 30  | 35  |
| 45 MAX. S.E.  | 70   | 70  | 125 | 125 | 300 | 420 |
| 65 MAX. S.E.  | 65   | 65  | 115 | 115 | 275 | 380 |
| 85 MAX. S.E.  | 60   | 60  | 105 | 105 | 250 | 350 |
| <b>INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL ACCESS</b>                         | 15   | 20  | 25  | 25  | 30  | 35  |
| 45 MAX. S.E.  | 70   | 125 | 205 | 205 | 300 | 420 |
| 65 MAX. S.E.  | 65   | 115 | 185 | 185 | 275 | 380 |
| 85 MAX. S.E.  | 60   | 105 | 170 | 170 | 250 | 350 |
| <b>URBAN LOCAL ROADWAYS</b>                                 | 15   | 20  | 25  | 30  | 35  | 40  |
| 45 MAX. S.E.  | 40   | 80  | 145 | 230 | 345 | 490 |
| 65 MAX. S.E.  | 40   | 75  | 165 | 215 | 320 | 450 |
| 85 MAX. S.E.  | 50   | 70  | 105 | 150 | 205 | 270 |
| <b>UNPAVED ROADWAYS</b>                                     | 50   | 70  | 105 | 150 | 205 | 270 |
| NORMAL CROWN  | 50   | 70  | 105 | 150 | 205 | 270 |
| <b>MINIMUM STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE (FEET)</b>               | 65   | 90  | 115 | 135 | 170 | 215 |
| ADT 0 TO 100 (VEH/DAY)                                      | 65   | 95  | 125 | 165 | 205 | 250 |
| ADT 101 TO 400 (VEH/DAY)                                    | 2  | 4   | 7   | 9   | 14  | 22  |
| <b>MINIMUM - K - VALUES</b>                                 | 2  | 5   | 8   | 13  | 20  | 29  |
| ADT 0 TO 100 (VEH/DAY)                                      | 10   | 17  | 26  | 37  | 49  | 64  |
| ADT 101 TO 400 (VEH/DAY)                                    | 9  | 8   | 7   | 7   | 7   | 7   |
| <b>TYPE OF TERRAIN</b>                                      | 12   | 11  | 11  | 10  | 10  | 9   |
| LEVEL   | 17   | 16  | 15  | 14  | 13  | 12  |
| ROLLING   |  |     |     |     |     |     |
| MOUNTAINOUS   |  |     |     |     |     |     |
| <b>MAXIMUM GRADE (%)</b>                                    | 17   | 16  | 15  | 14  | 13  | 12  |
| <b>SUPERELEVATION</b>                                       | SEE STANDARD DRAWING RD01-SE-2 AND RD01-SE-3 |     |     |     |     |     |

**FOOTNOTES**

- 1 FOR BRIDGE PROJECTS WHERE THE TOTAL APPROACH ROADWAY WIDTH (TRAVELED WAY PLUS SHOULDERS) IS SURFACED, THAT SECTION WITHIN SELECTED FROM THE TOTAL APPROACH ROADWAY WIDTH SHOULD BE LESS THAN THE EXISTING ROADWAY WIDTH, AS DETERMINED ABOVE. HOWEVER, ON THE SURFACE RURAL ROADS, WITHOUT DEFINED TRAVELED WAY OR DEFINED SHOULDERS, THE WIDTH DETERMINED FROM TABLE 1 WILL SUFFICE.
- 2 SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND ENGINEERING JUDGMENT OF THE DESIGNER SHOULD BE THE TWO PRIMARY DETERMINANTS OF THE APPROPRIATE CLEAR ZONE WIDTH FOR LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROADS. AT LOCATIONS WHERE A CLEAR ZONE OF 6 FEET OR MORE IN WIDTH CAN BE PROVIDED AT LOW COST AND WITH MINIMUM SOCIAL/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT, SUCH CLEAR ZONE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. WHERE PROVISION OF A CLEAR ZONE IS NOT PRACTICAL, NONE IS REQUIRED.
- 3 FOR THE DESIGN OF SUPER ELEVATION TRANSITIONS, USE THE SUPER ELEVATION DESIGN SPEED LISTED DIRECTLY ABOVE THE SELECTED MINIMUM HORIZONTAL CURVE RADIUS. FOR EXISTING ROADS WHERE SUPER ELEVATION IS NOT PRESENT AND NO SUPER ELEVATION TRANSITIONS ARE REQUIRED, THE NORMAL CROSS SLOPE MAY BE USED UNLESS SUPER ELEVATION IS NEEDED AS DETERMINED BY THE DESIGNER. THE DESIGNER SHOULD ASSESS THE PROJECT SITE AND USE ENGINEERING JUDGMENT WHEN MAKING THIS DETERMINATION. FOR UNPAVED ROADS, REMOVAL OF NORMAL CROWN BY SUPER ELEVATING THE ENTIRE ROADWAY AT THE NORMAL CROSS SLOPE MAY BE USED OR SUPER ELEVATION MAY BE ELIMINATED.
- 4 THESE STRUCTURES SHOULD BE ANALYZED INDIVIDUALLY, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE CLEAR WIDTH PROVIDED, TRAFFIC VOLUMES, REMAINING LIFE OF THE STRUCTURE, PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES, SNOW STORAGE, DESIGN SPEED, ACCIDENT RECORD, AND OTHER PERTINENT FACTORS.
- 5 MAXIMUM 2% HORIZONTAL SLOPE OR AS RECOMMENDED BY THE GEOTECHNICAL OFFICE. WHEN A 2% HORIZONTAL SLOPE IS USED, AND THE FILL HEIGHT EXCEEDS SIX FEET, GUARDRAIL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. WHERE RIGHT-OF-WAY IS NOT AN ISSUE, STANDARD DRAWING RD01-5-11 (CASE 11) SHOULDS BE USED.
- 6 SEE GUARDRAIL STANDARD DRAWINGS (S-OR-SERIES) FOR GUARDRAIL PLACEMENT. FOR LOW-VOLUME LOCAL ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS, USE MINIMUM GUARDRAIL SHOWN ON STANDARD DRAWING S-OR-23A. FOR ALL OTHER PROJECTS, GUARDRAIL SHOULD BE MADE TO THE AASHTO "ROADSIDE DESIGN GUIDE", 2006.
- 7 CURB-TO-CURB OR BETWEEN RAILS, WHICHEVER IS THE DESIGNER.
- 8 MINIMUM DITCH OR SWALE SHALL BE 2 FOOT DEEP WITH 2% HORIZONTAL SLOPE. THIS DITCH OR SWALE SHALL BE USED UNLESS CONDITIONS NECESSITATE OTHERWISE (SUCH AS DISCHARGE IN DITCH OR UNDERMINING OF ROADWAY SURFACE).
- 9 DESIGN SPEED SHOULD BE SELECTED BASED ON ACTUAL OR ANTICIPATED OPERATING SPEED AND CONDITIONS ON THE ROAD BEING DESIGNED.