



Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Memorandum

To: Distribution

From: Paul Ferry, P.E.
Highways Engineer

Date: July 6, 2011

Subject: Median Crossover Changes

Due to a number of complaints from truckers and a follow-up investigation by the Traffic & Safety Bureau, the following changes need to be made to median crossovers.

- 1) A taper rate of 12:1 should be used for median crossovers instead of the 10:1 (desirable); 8:1 (minimum). The 12:1 taper rate was selected because it is comparable to what is used for interstate exit ramps. The crossover is similar because the driver is leaving the 4-lane facility and entering a two-lane facility. The 12:1 taper rate should also be used for ramp crossovers. The Detailed Drawings have been modified accordingly. Sites will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis if constraints make the use of this taper rate impractical.
- 2) We have also experienced some problems with the estimation of crossover quantities. Consequently, cross sections should be surveyed at all crossover locations because the as-built dimensions may not be accurate.
- 3) Unless a separate recommendation is provided by the Pavement Analysis Section, the surfacing for median crossovers will consist of 0.40' of plant mix and 1.0' of Crushed Aggregate Course

These changes should be made to all projects that have not been submitted to the checkers **by August 1, 2011**. If you have questions concerning this, please contact me at 444-6244.

Distribution:

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