

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 9, 1994

TO: Bridge Design Personnel
FROM: Dale F. Loe, Bridge Engineer
SUBJECT: **Horizontal Clearances for Underpasses**
Without Pier Protection Devices

Subsection 2.4 in the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges (1992) requires the use of guardrail or other barrier devices when the distance from the edge of the through traffic lanes to the pier columns or walls is less than 30 feet.

Effective immediately our policy will be to allow the pier columns or walls for grade separation structures to be located in conformance with the clear zone concept as contained in Chapter 3, of the AASHTO Roadside Design Guide, 1988.

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For curbed sections the minimum distance from the roadway face of curb to the face of pier columns or walls shall be a minimum of 10 feet unless an exception is granted by the Bridge Engineer and approved by the Asst. Chief Engineer, Design.

Note a minimum distance of 30 feet if preferred for sections without curbs and a minimum distance of 14 feet is preferred for sections with curbs.