

9/14/17

This design memo is intended to clarify any misunderstanding that there may have been with regards to the recent Bridge Manual update. The language in parentheses is now added.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Letting dates frequently get moved. If there is *any* chance that a letting for a project that you are working on could be moved to after December 31, 2019, plan accordingly. Going from a 32SS parapet to a 42SS parapet increases weight and could require a significant redesign effort.

### **30.1 Crash-Tested Bridge Railings and FHWA Policy**

**Notice:** All contracts with a letting date after December 31, 2019 must use bridge rails and transitions meeting the 2016 Edition of MASH criteria for new permanent installation and full replacement.

#### **WisDOT policy item:**

For all Interstate structures, the 42SS parapet shall be used. For all STH and USH structures with a posted speed  $\geq$  45 mph, the 42SS parapet shall be used.

The timeline for implementation of the above policy is:

- All contracts with a letting date after December 31, 2019.  
(This is an absolute, regardless of when the design was started.)
- All preliminary designs starting after October 1, 2017  
(Even if the let is anticipated to be prior to December 31, 2019.)

Contact BOS should the 42" height adversely affect sight distance, a minimum 0.5% grade for drainage cannot be achieved, or for other non-typical situations.

**William Dreher, P.E. | Structures Design Chief**

Office: (608) 266-8489 | Mobile: (608) 206-6935

[william.dreher@dot.wi.gov](mailto:william.dreher@dot.wi.gov) | [BOS Website](#)

**David Kiekbusch, P.E. | Automation, Policy and Standards Supervisor**

Office: (608) 266-5084

[david.kiekbusch@dot.wi.gov](mailto:david.kiekbusch@dot.wi.gov) | [BOS Website](#)

