

INTRODUCTION

The Roadway Design Guide is based on the 2004 edition of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets (PGDHS)*, commonly known as the AASHTO Green Book, and on established Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) policies and practices. Although this guide is based on the *PGDHS*, not every section of the *PGDHS* is represented in the guide. When a more detailed discussion of theory or background is needed, the designer should refer to the appropriate section of the *PGDHS*.

This guide was prepared and reviewed by a team of CDOT engineers from the CDOT regions and the Project Development Branch of Staff Services.

Consult Chapter 3, *Elements of Design*, and Chapter 4, *Cross Section Elements*, for details on the basic design elements applicable to all classifications of roadways.

Use these guidelines and good engineering judgment, along with the *PGDHS* named above. Users should keep abreast of the latest practices and developments in design. Exceptions from these guidelines should be thoroughly evaluated and documented in accordance with CDOT's design exception policies.

The term "Exhibit" refers to a figure or table contained in the *PGDHS*, whereas the terms "Figure" and "Table" refer to objects in this CDOT guide. The terms "chapter" and "section", when used in this guide, refer to chapters and sections of this guide, unless specifically identified as part of some other publication.

The standards presented in this guide represent required values. These values imply the lowest acceptable limit in design. Design policies and standards are not inflexible. Higher standards may be used within reasonable economic limits. To ensure uniform practice on a statewide basis, lower design standards will not be used without a Form 464, Design Exception Variance Request or a design decision, as outlined in the *CDOT Project Development Manual*.

The project manager is responsible for incorporating current design standards and safety guidelines as developed by AASHTO and CDOT into highway design.

The *2005 CDOT Design Guide*:

- Refers to The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets 2004* as the "PGDHS."
- Clarifies and, as needed, expands on material in the *PGDHS*.
- Points out processes and applications unique to CDOT.
- Refers to other resources where appropriate, e.g. the *Highway Capacity Manual*.

Comments on this Guide may be sent to:
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Or you may call 303-757-9474.

These guidelines use standard US Customary (inch-foot-mile) units.