Summary
The department completed a Safety Rest Area Policy Framework & Implementation Strategy in March 2004 (refer to attachment). The purpose of the strategic planning study is to provide the department with direction relative to the evaluation, selection, prioritization, and construction of specific rural Safety Rest Areas. As part of the Safety Rest Area (SRA) study, Section F.2 – Highway Safety Rest Areas of the Highway Geometric Design Guide 1995, Updated 1999 has been updated with respect to the SRA category (naming) based on type of roadway and purpose served. The update also includes guidelines in regards to SRA facilities/services and site evaluations.

Key changes
The following key changes have been made to Section F of the department’s Highway Geometric Design Guide:

1. The current four SRA categories of Class I, Class II, Class III(a) and Class III(b) has been revised and divided into three SRA categories. SRA’s are now divided into three categories based on the type of roadway they serve and their purpose. The three new categories are:
   - F2.1 Category - Freeway/Expressways Safety Rest Areas
     - Figure F-2.1.1 Freeway/Expressway (replaces existing Figure F-2.4e)
     - Figure F-2.1.2 Expressway (replaces existing Figure F-2.4d)
   - F2.2 Category - Two Lane Highway (Future Multi-Lane) Safety Rest Areas
     - Figure F-2.2.1 Existing Two Lane Highway (Future Multi-Lane) on Same Side (replaces existing Figure F-2.4g)
     - Figure F-2.2.2 Existing Two Lane Highway (Future Multi-Lane) on Opposite Side (replaces existing Figure F-2.4f)
• F2.3 Category - Two Lane Highway Safety Rest Areas
  o Figure F-2.3.1 Two Lane Highway –Typical (replaces existing Figure F-2.4a)
  o Figure F-2.3.2 Log Haul Routes (replaces Figure F-2.4b issued under Design Bulletin #5/2001)

2. Guidelines for SRA facilities and services have been added to Section F.2. These include public toilets, security lighting, garbage receptacles, picnic tables and telephones.

3. Site Evaluations Chart for SRA have been added to Section F.2. The Chart is intended to provide a checklist to planners and designers on elements to consider in the application of the SRA framework.

4. Section F.4 Highload/Wideload Oversize Roadside Turnout has been added to Section F. The layout design for highload/wideload oversize loads was previously issued under Design Bulletin #5/2001 as Figure F-2.4b(i). There is no change to the layout, but Figure F-2.4b(i) has been renumbered to Figure F-4.1 and placed under Section F.4.
  • Figure F-4.1 Roadside Turnouts for Highload/Wideload Load Use (Near Point of Origin) (replaces Figure F-2.4b(i) issued under Design Bulletin #5/2001)

5. The following Figures are no longer in use and have been deleted from the Section F.2:
  • Figure F-2.2 Class I Major Rest Area
  • Figure F-2.3 Class II Rest Areas (Typical Access)
  • Figure F-2.4c Class IIIa Rest Areas (Roadside Turnouts on Recreational Roads)

6. Section F.3 - Major Development Access (Highway Commercial). Section F.3 is being re-issued due to pages being renumbered only. There are no revisions to Figure F-3 (Page F-33).

**Implementation**

1. Updates to Section F of the Highway Geometric Design Guide 1995, Updated 1999 are as follows:
   • The included Section F.2 (dated August 2004), Section F.3 (dated June 1996) and Section F.4 (dated August 2004) replaces Section F.2 and Section F.3.
   • The included Table of Contents (Page F-1) and List of Figures (Page F-2) both dated August 2004 replaces Table of Contents (Page F-1) and List of Figures (Page F-2) dated August 1999.

The new guidelines as indicated in this Bulletin are to be implemented immediately unless the cost or timing does not allow such a change to be made on a specific project. The decision to revise or not will be made at the discretion of the Project Sponsor. The attachments circulated under this Bulletin will also be issued as part of the next update to the Highway Geometric Design Guide.

2. Update to Design Bulletin #5/2001. Figure F-2.4b and Figure F-2.4b(i) issued under Design Bulletin #5/2001 are replaced by Figures F-2.3.2 and Figure F-4.1 respectively, issued under this Bulletin.

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Contact: Bill Kenny, Technical Standards Branch, Alberta Transportation.

Attachments:
- Sections F.2, F.3 and F.4, including Table of Contents (Page F-1) and List of Figures (Page F-2). SUPERSEDED - May 2007.
- Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation (Southern Region), Safety Rest Areas Site Evaluations, Final, January 2005.